
THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 56

JANUARY 15, 1931

No. 2

Book Wagons

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Forthcoming Issues of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

✿ A Buildings Number of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL is always welcome and we feel sure that our readers will look forward with interest to the next issue, February first, to be devoted to this subject. There are several new buildings to cover, two of the outstanding being the Richmond, Virginia, new central building and the famous Fisk University Library building. We also hope to be able to present in this number Dr. Koopman's excellent paper on "Flexibility vs. Rigidity in Library Planning" which was read before the American Library Institute at Chicago on December 29.

✿ Branch Library problems are always of interest and the February 15 issue will have several special articles on Branch work. The work of a Regional Branch in a large city will be presented by Miss Pearl Field of Chicago; reference work in branch libraries by Miss Vera Morgan of Indianapolis; and the problem of selling the Branch Library to the community presented by Miss Lyndell Martling of Gary, Indiana.

✿ Are you enjoying the series of articles on foreign libraries? The next one will be on "Publicity Work in Danish Libraries" by the librarian of The Literary Club of Fyen, Denmark.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL



A City Book Wagon

By PHYLLIS KNOWLES BLOOD

Extension Division, New York Public Library, N. Y.

THE NEW YORK Public Library has demonstrated by experience that the Book Wagon has its place in the library service of a large city. During the past two years it has been amply proved that one unit like the Book Wagon can serve a wide area and many communities at a reasonable cost. There are two Book Wagons operated by the New York Public Library. One of them has served since 1922 on Staten Island, where the conditions more generally approach those encountered in rural districts, while the other, the Bronx Book Wagon, has the entirely different problem of providing books for thickly populated sections of the city; it seems incredible but there are such sections in the Bronx literally miles from the nearest library.

In July of 1928 a ton and half Ford truck was equipped with a special body, holding 650 books and magazines. The cost of the chassis and body was \$1418. (Chassis—\$611.13 and Body—\$807.50)

One side of the wagon holds the adult books and the other side the children's. Hinged glass doors lift up allowing a lower section to swing out forming a counter below three book shelves. The back opens in the same way, the raised top giving some shelter and the lower shelf serving as a discharging desk. A high stool, which is carried inside, is used at the back end thereby easing feet weary by too hot or too cold pavements. A

folding table is carried, but on the whole better order is maintained by discharging at the back, which is fitted with trays for circulation, readers' cards, etc. A small detachable shelf in front enables charging and registration to be done from the front seat. The wagon has space inside for magazines, but it was found easier to put them in a small wooden box (half an orange box fitted with cleats makes a container easily handled) which is put on the curb at each stop. A fairy tale box has also been a great aid. The magazines, such as *St. Nicholas*, *Popular Science*, *American Boy*, *National Geographic* and many others, are most maddening things to handle in such cramped space but this awkwardness caused by their various sizes is more than counterbalanced by their popularity.

The truck is attractive, its body being painted green with black trimming; the name is in gold lettering and the glass sides reveal the books. If more funds had been available a larger, lower-slung wagon with inside shelves, divided front seat and more adequate heat and light arrangements would have been designed, but in spite of this initial drawback good work has been done. There is no doubt that the Book Wagon is an excellent publicity agent and has the quality of creating a friendly interest wherever it goes or stops and is an especially good medium for arousing the interest of adults who normally would not enter a library building. This interest is

stimulated even in districts through which the Book Wagon only passes on its way to its stops.

The Bronx Book Wagon is of course considered as the forerunner of branches or sub-branches. It is operated by the Extension Division and its main office is in the basement of the branch nearest its main routes, while the garage is at another branch. Realizing that the funds available for books and maintenance were not sufficient for extended serv-

stant stopping and starting. Nevertheless the wagon should not be so large as to become cumbersome and unwieldy.

During the two and half years of service there has been some change and reorganizations of the stops but there are an average of four or five stops a day. The Book Wagon is in service four days a week and one day is necessary for messenger and office work, car cleaning and overhauling, etc. All stops are made weekly and the time allowed for each is from half an hour to an hour. The neighborhoods are varied — Scandinavian, Italian, Jewish, a Garden City group, a large Hebrew orphanage, three schools for crippled children (these are visited during school hours) and a Dalton plan school, also visited during school hours, where it is usual to circulate over 400 books.

Under its status as a unit of Extension Division the Book Wagon has its own books. This collection is some 2661 books for children and 1848 for adults, with a registration of about 3700 borrowers. The Wagon is greatly aided by the circuit book system



The Bronx Book Wagon which, in the Last Two and a Half Years, Has Traveled 19,400 Miles

ice the territory to be served was limited to some six miles square, involving an average daily trip of thirty miles. In two and a half years the Book Wagon has gone 19,400 miles. A thorough survey of this section was made and groups of stops selected, care being taken to choose places safe from traffic and always stopping with the children's side against the curb. The merest rumour of books brought such insistent and urgent requests from all sides that it was hard to decide just where to make a stop. Large apartment house districts had to be avoided in favour of sections having small apartment houses and two and three family houses. There are districts almost unapproachable because of bad roads: a city book wagon has the rural problems of ruts and mud as well as its own traffic difficulties. Experience has shown the dubious economy of the too small truck. A heavier, better and larger truck equipped with good snubbers would have fewer repair bills arising from the strains of jolting and con-



About Ninety Per Cent of the Book Wagon Borrowers are Children

which is an arrangement for giving each unit of the Division a three months' loan of the new books. The Book Wagon can also draw upon the non-fiction resources of the branches, an invaluable aid in reserve work. As the Book Wagon is part of the library system all rules and routine are as much as possible like those of the branch libraries. Branch cards are usable on the Wagon.

And the borrowers, what satisfaction do they get from the Book Wagon? There is one answer in the lines of waiting children, faithful through winter and summer. About ninety per cent of the borrowers are children. The children's books circulate so rapidly that

a neighbor to gather books for them; thus the adult is gradually learning what good service the individual can get. So a not too-impatient reader or too-insistent lover of the newest book can really obtain a very good weekly service through the prompt attention



This Book Wagon Is Equipped with Five Portable Lights, and an Extra Storage Battery, For Night or Late Afternoon Work

there is a constant change on the shelves, but not so with the adult books. The small book wagon cannot carry enough book stock to keep its shelves constantly interesting unless it has a good circulation. However the shelves are kept attractive by changing the entire collection about once a month. The adult problem is caused partly by the late afternoon stops and the short length of stay. But recently the adults are realizing that the Book Wagon is not for children only and they send written requests by their children or delegate

given to reserves and through the Circuit Book system.

Another problem is the "required reading" for the high school children, who are so far from a branch library. It is doubtful that a Book Wagon can help these children a great deal because of its restricted space and its weekly stop. Here can be noted the value of a book truck with an inside row of shelves which could be kept in perfect order and carry books in special demand. An agitating question lurks in one's mind—How much real

book work for children can a Book Wagon do? From observation based on the work in the Bronx it can honestly be said that good work has been done with the children, but there are handicaps to be taken into account. The stops usually begin at two-thirty o'clock. From that time until six, three or four stops have to be made with an average stopping time of half an hour to an hour with a circulation of 100 to 350 at each stop. Before leaving one stop for the next all slipping, revising and charging have to be completed as there is no room for piles of undone work. Because of these rushed conditions special effort is made to keep the truck well equipped with the greatest possible variety of the best children's books. An open car can pick up valuable information for book selection as the children are volubly friendly towards the Book Wagon and quite unrestrained in their loud opinions. No attempt is made to keep the books arranged so there is no discontented lurking near a "Seaman" mystery shelf.

The inability to cope with school-list reading and the seeming disadvantage of a weekly visit have their good points, for it is noticed that many a child discovers the treasure in a book, which perhaps swiftly selected, he has time to read thoroughly. No matter what the locality the great classics of children's literature such as *King Arthur* stories, *Robinson Crusoe*, *Alice in Wonderland*, Andersen's *Fairy tales*, the old folklore tales and such authors as Alcott and Mark Twain, etc., are beloved of all children. Each stop also has its character, usually something too intangible or subtle for words to express but there are predilections in each group and often runs on certain types of books such as *Robin Hood*, *Pinocchio*, books on swimming and boating, animals and birds. There is always an insatiable longing for books on airplanes, Indians, sports and the *Popular Mechanics* and *Popular Science* magazines. The children of New York, if judged by the numbers in which they crowd the libraries, are avid readers but there seems to be a special joyousness about the book wagon children; perhaps it is the result of no restraining walls. However there is a happy quality about the work that will linger long in the mind of the librarian.

The summer has its special attractions for it is then that the Book Wagon brings out its own collection of choice Reading Room Books; woven grass mats are spread out and if no trees are handy the big striped umbrella shades a happy group. Also during the summer months a story-teller from the Branch libraries gives a story-hour at each stop. These "extras" of the summertime have

brought most sincere and spontaneous appreciation.

The original Book Wagon staff comprised a full-time librarian and a full-time chauffeur, a young man whose willingness and good nature have materially helped the work. This staff was augmented with help from the Extension Division office, usually two assistants who worked from two until six o'clock. The Book Wagon was outgrown almost immediately, nevertheless results have been very good as can be gauged from the circulation of 48,424 from August 1928 to July 1929 and 62,474 from August 1929 to July 1930. At present the staff consists of a full-time librarian, one full-time helper and extra help at the busiest stops, besides the full-time chauffeur.

Winter brings the problem of lights. The Bronx Book Wagon is equipped with five portable lights and an extra storage battery which must be charged about once a month. The illumination is sufficient to demonstrate the possibilities of night work. There is something eerie and intriguing about selecting books by a rather inadequate electric light.

It really has been amazing how the borrowers have used the Book Wagon regularly, through every sort of weather, thereby justifying the determination to have the Wagon appear at the appointed time; but it has been found impractical to charge books in the rain though they are always discharged. Neither has the acceptance of the Wagon as a regular institution lessened the borrowers' enthusiasm. But heat and cold do have to be very seriously considered when a book wagon service is inaugurated. It was found necessary, for the convenience of the helpers who must ride inside, to install a trap-door ventilator in the roof of the Wagon. But the cold is a more penetrating enemy which the exhaust heater of the car does not overcome. There is no doubt whatever that the book wagon does make a great demand on the physical endurance of the librarians so that every convenience that lessens this makes for efficiency.

The New York Public Library's venture with the City Book Wagon has been successful in demonstrating that in new and growing districts the book wagon is an ideal method of supplying books to the residents until such time as a sub-branch or branch library can be definitely or permanently established. The Book Wagon in New York has proved of more than temporary value and should continue its good work though the limited equipment does prove a serious handicap. A fleet of book wagons could be kept busy if an attempt were made to cover all the districts not served by regular libraries.

The Fraser Valley Book Van

By NORA BATESON

Librarian, Fraser Valley Public Library, British Columbia

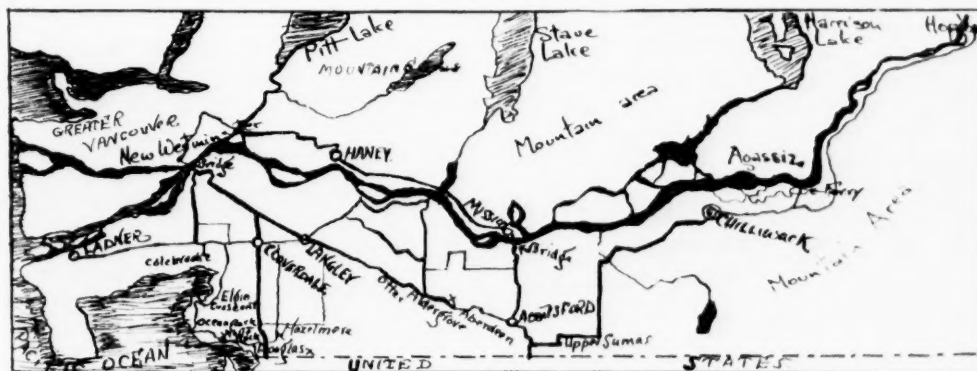
THE CARNEGIE demonstration now being carried on in British Columbia under the directorship of Dr. Helen Gordon Stewart has for its theatre the lower Fraser Valley. The territory to be served by this regional library experiment extends east and west from Hope in the mountains to Ladner on the delta, a distance of over a hundred miles; south of the river to the international boundary line and north to the natural boundary of forest and lake. It is a territory of about 16,000 square miles with a population of 40,000. The main roads run east and west. The highways are good in parts and constantly improving, but the country roads are generally rough and sometimes mountainous. Most of them are open all the year round. The main difficulty of communication is between the north and south banks of the river, the only links being a ferry from Agassiz to Rosedale, a bridge at Mission and the main bridge at New Westminster. The great climatic problem is rain, which in the winter months is almost incessant. Parts of the valley are subject to heavy fogs, especially in October and November, and travel then is difficult and dangerous.

The population of the Valley is largely engaged in dairying, chicken-farming and small fruit-farming. There are many logging and lumber camps and some mining enterprises. The hydro-electric power station at Ruskin employs a staff of highly-trained people. There is abundance of electric power which

is used for transportation and most of the farms have electricity for lighting and other purposes. The large departmental stores in Vancouver have weekly a door to door delivery throughout the Valley. This Valley is highly organized, far and away the most important organization being the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association and the Egg Pool. Local organization is quite marked and very vigorous.

The population is largely British-born and has good reading traditions. There is also a large body of retired farmers from the prairies. There are Mennonites and central Europeans in the tobacco and hop-growing Sumas region. There are Swedes and a few French and there are Indian reservations. Fruit-growing is almost entirely in the hands of the Japanese and there are Hindus employed in the lumber mills. The foreign population, however, presents no special problem. One problem which will arise in the summer is that of the tourists and visitors who flock to the Valley from Vancouver and the United States.

This then is the territory chosen for the Carnegie Demonstration of a regional library scheme. The Demonstration is organized and directed from New Westminster by Dr. Stewart, but the actual Valley scheme headquarters are at Chilliwack. Hitherto, except for the Traveling Libraries sent out from Victoria, there had been no library service in this area. Dr. Stewart was appointed in Feb-



Fraser Valley, a Territory of About 16,000 Square Miles. Legend of Map: A Circle Within a Circle—Centre; A Single Circle—Branch; A Black Dot—Sub-Branch; A Small Cross—Deposit

ruary, 1930, and after a few months of strenuous surveying and campaigning the headquarters and main branch was opened at Chilliwack on August 6. This was followed by other branches and by the middle of November there had already been established seven main branches at Mission, Abbotsford, Haney, Langley, Cloverdale and Ladner. These branches serve the surrounding territory. Except for the branches and the sub-branch at Hope the original intention was to circulate entirely from the van. Where this plan has had to be modified will be explained later.

The main problems, of distance, difficulty



The Fraser Valley Book Van Closed. Glass Paneled Doors Display Book Stock

of communication and rain, have been mentioned. But our greatest difficulty, while it is also our greatest satisfaction, has been the enthusiastic and immediate response which the scheme has met everywhere, and the wide range of reading interests which have been revealed. Our great problem has been, not to circulate books, but to supply the demand and to keep anything on the shelves. At this date there are 7,500 people registered and the total circulation for November was 42,413.

According to the 1931 schedule the van itself operates from Chilliwack. It carries books from Chilliwack to the branches and has regular service routes which will eventually include calls at all the schools. It usually goes out from Chilliwack in the morning and returns the same night. Some of the routes are long and make it necessary to stop overnight at New Westminster, doing a route on the return trip to Chilliwack next day.

To illustrate the sort of thing the van is doing I shall sketch briefly a typical day's route. Starting from New Westminster at 9:00 a.m., our first stop is at Colebrook, where we are due at 9:45. Colebrook is a community hall with a school close by and we stop here for half an hour. The charging

and discharging of books is done at a table inside the hall, which, by the way, is anything from a Sunday school to a dance hall. It is a busy half hour, for some twenty to thirty people come in, in dripping slickers and wet mackinaws. They are shepherded by a woman who directs the activities of the community and without whose leadership Colebrook would dissolve into its few scattered farms. We leave with her also a small deposit of books which she circulates among the school children. Many requests are made here, for there is very definite interest in astronomy, Canadian history and music as well as popular books on religious questions. The next stop is Crescent. Here we halt at the general store. It is a short stop and we usually discharge and charge books from the drop shelf on the van.

A few miles further on we pass an isolated farm where we pause for a few minutes. At the honk of our horn the housewife and her son hurry down to choose books for themselves and the rest of the family. From the farmer this time there is an urgent request for something on "Diseases of Cows" and for the youngest child a Leslie Brooke picture book. Our next stop is Ocean Park, where we camp with our folding table and camp stool under the verandah of a small store. We do a very brisk business here and are always armed with a large bundle of books in response to previous requests. Saylor's book on the *Moscow Art Theatre* and a scientific treatise on the biology of fishes are just two of the books we have been asked to bring.

It is now 12:00 a. m. and we snatch a hurried lunch, for we know from experience that the heavy work has not begun. At 12:30 we drive into White Rock and the garage, a large one, is already crowded. The van stands outside but, as shelter from the rain is necessary, the charging table is set up inside. Here, for more than two hours we are besieged and nearly two hundred people come to the van. White Rock is a seaside resort and a number of retired professional people live here. This partly explains the vigour and breadth of interest displayed in the books taken out and requested. There is also excellent local leadership, but we are told that never has White Rock been so united as in its interest in the library.

From White Rock it is only a few miles to Douglas on the international boundary line. Here we make a stop at the Customs House, which offers some shelter from the rain. A mere handful of people await us here, but as so often happens, each one represents half

a dozen readers. Douglas is very scattered and we make another stop, at a cross-roads where there is one house. As we draw up several people emerge, each one heavily laden. It is 3:45 when we leave Douglas, to reach Hazelmere by four o'clock. The short November day is closing in and we can never think of Hazelmere without its sweeping torrents of rain. Hazelmere evidently finds rain exhilarating for it is a high-spirited crowd which meets us here. Hazelmere is repre-

The system of deposits has obvious advantages. But the people feel as strongly as we do that it is no substitute for service from the van. A trained librarian is always on the van and the driver is a librarian-in-training. By actual personal contact and by the system of request slips, and by lists of books on special subjects, every effort is made to bring to everybody on the routes the service of the whole body of books in the system. So we leave deposits where it seems specially advisable, but the van calls there as well.

The van specially constructed to meet our purposes is a G. M. C. one-ton truck, Model T 17 B, with a specially large wheel base to take a 9'x5' body. It is fitted with special springs and balloon tires and snubbers. In front is a closed cab with driver's seat and a collapsible seat that will hold two people. There are shelves inside and out, the outer shelves having doors which open outwards and upwards. There is a glass panel in the doors sufficiently large to display the books without too much danger of breakage on rough roads. The shelves inside are used to



Shelves Inside and Out of This Van. Outer Shelves Have Doors as Pictured

sented only by its general store and its large V-joint community hall. But on foot and in every brand and vintage of car they come, to the number of a hundred. Their reading interests are very wide, books on live-stock judging and on seeds, books on Gregorian music and art, the latest fiction and biography are eagerly asked for, and supplied. It is five o'clock and quite dark when we leave Hazelmere for New Westminster.

This particular route has been selected as illustrating a special problem. We had originally hoped to serve all the places on this route permanently from the van. But our plan had not taken into account the immediate response and enthusiasm which the scheme aroused. We soon found that the crowds at White Rock and Hazelmere could not be dealt with adequately from the van. Douglas, on the other hand, was so scattered that most of those interested could not get out to meet the van and they petitioned for a deposit. There are similar cases on other bus routes. So here and there we have left deposits of books, in community halls and stores, with local custodians in charge.



Inside are Two Dome Lights. The Inside Shelves are for Special Reserves

carry books to the branches and for special reserves. The total book capacity is 1200 without counting possible space on the floor. Inside are two dome lights and a small seat which moves on special runners and is convenient for arranging books on the inside shelves. There is also a set of folding steps which can be let down when the door is opened, and behind the driver's seat a small cupboard from floor to roof for coats and lunch and kit boxes.

It was our experience at Hazelmere in the early days which made imperative some contrivance for better shelter from the rain, and for some way of lighting the outside of the van. A kindly patron had come to our rescue one particularly dark day and turned his car so that the head lights shone on the shelves

on one side! Now we have side shelter curtains which are hooked to the raised panels and runners to bridge the treacherous gaps between panels. We have also trouble lights, magnetized by the electric current so that they adhere to the metal framework of the raised panels and can be moved about as desired.

The Bookmobiles of Acadia University

By MARY KINLEY INGRAHAM

Librarian, Acadia University Library, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada

THE PROBLEM of bringing books to the people of the small towns, villages, and country districts of the Maritime Provinces of Canada has occupied the minds of legislators and educationists for many years. Now it would seem to have been solved, tentatively at least, by the inauguration of two traveling libraries, equipped by Acadia University, and sent out over the Provinces in motor wagons, known as Bookmobiles.

These book wagons were not modelled upon any plans or specifications previously used. They were built last winter in the University Workshop, under the direction of Mr. Karl Borden, Superintendent of Buildings. Each Bookmobile weighs one and three-quarter tons; when filled with books, three and one-quarter tons. Each has four double stacks, any one of which may be drawn out in the rear, as shown in the accompanying illustration. Each is built to hold 2400 volumes; supposing 1000 books to be out on loan as a rule, the librarian could take care of a library of 3400 volumes. By the end of May, 1930, these wagons were ready; the books had been purchased, cataloged, and shelved, and on the ninth of June the two set out on their separate itineraries. Mr. T. A. M. Kirk, B.A., a graduate of Acadia University in the class of 1930, was the traveling librarian in charge of Bookmobile Number 1, intended for the Nova Scotia field; Mr. Hugh Miller, B. A., also an Acadia graduate in the class of 1930, took Bookmobile Number 2 through New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

At present there are about 1500 books in each Bookmobile, comprising 700 titles. The traveling librarians are not encumbered with the technicalities of any standard classifica-

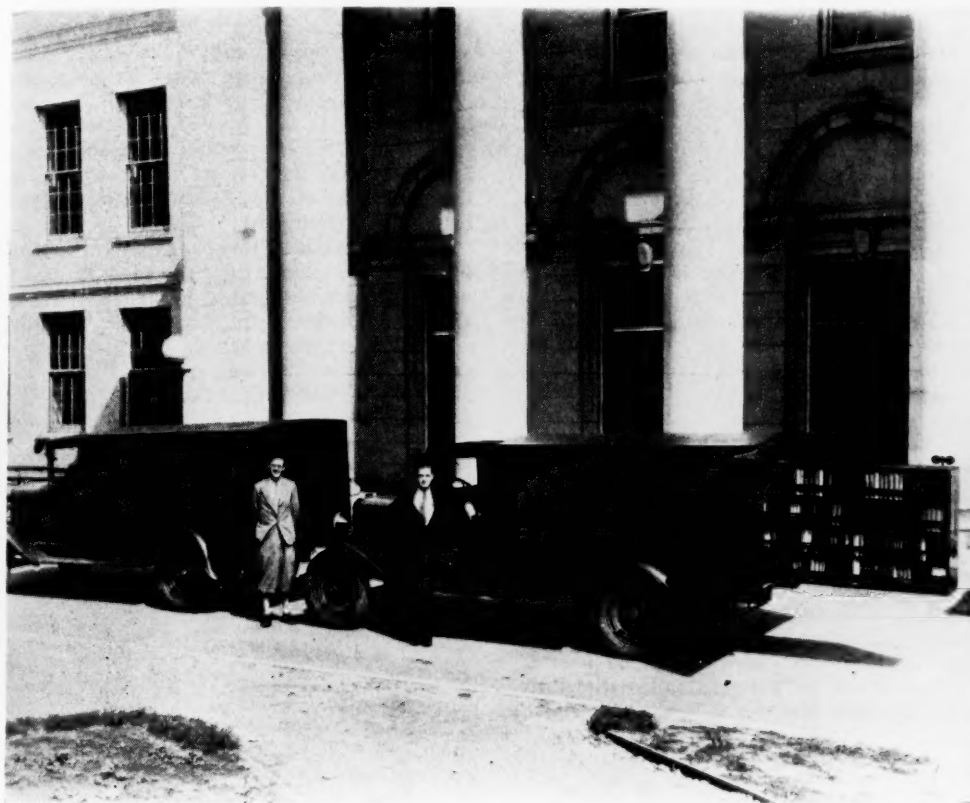
tion system. Instead, their books are arranged simply under the following headings: Art of Living, Biography, Business, Canada and her Problems, Drama, Economics and Sociology, Education, Essays, Fiction, General Works, Health, History, Home, Language and Literature, Music, Nature, Oratory, Poetry, Psychology and Philosophy, Religion, Science, Travel and Adventure. The contents of one Bookmobile are almost exactly duplicated in the other.

The Bookmobile for Nova Scotia had on its itinerary ninety-four stations where it stopped regularly to lend books to subscribers, and to receive those that had been out on loan since the last call. Nova Scotia, be it remembered, covers an area of 21,428 square miles, and the borrowing stations were distributed from remote districts in the northern part of Cape Breton Island to Yarmouth at the other end of the Province. Nevertheless, between the ninth of June and the twenty-second of November Bookmobile Number 1 called at every station eight times. The area of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island together comprises more than 30,000 square miles. There were eighty-two stations on the itinerary of Bookmobile Number 2, and each of these was also visited eight times during the summer.

In the three Maritime Provinces there are 850 subscribers to these libraries, each paying one dollar and a half for the year's service. The numbers are steadily increasing. It was early spring when the Bookmobiles set out on their tour of the country, and the season when people consider books and reading for the long evenings was over. On the approach of winter that interest revives. Though the Bookmobiles finished their travels

for the summer on the twenty-second of November, the librarians in charge will continue the services to subscribers during the coming winter by mailing books from their office in Acadia University. When the roads open next spring, the Bookmobiles will set out again on their friendly mission. The initial cost of this enterprise was covered by

money making was not the object of the enterprise. We believe, however, that there are already large results in those intangible but very real values that mean much in the development of a people. From the beginning public interest in these libraries has been keen, though there has been no "tumult of acclaim" from those who received most benefit. Yet



The Acadia University Bookmobiles, with the Traveling Librarians, at the Rear Entrance to the Administration Building. Each Wagon Has Four Double Stacks, Any One of Which May Be Drawn Out

a donor who wishes to be anonymous. The cost of the two motor wagons was \$2800., the cost of the books \$3600., the average expenditure for the itineraries \$100. a week. This does not include the salaries of the traveling librarians.

To the casual reader it may seem that, considering the expenditure of money and effort, the number of subscribers to these libraries is rather small. Does the undertaking pay? Obviously not in dollars and cents, and yet

over the highways and through the byways of the country these Bookmobiles have passed, bringing the spirit of cooperation and interest to the towns and cities already equipped with public libraries, but bringing also the earnest of a new inheritance to the people in the villages, hamlets, and farming districts, people who have never seen books in ordered and useful mass, and to whom a four-foot shelf of volumes would seem a library inconceivably large.

A community without a library is a community whose soul is asleep.

Circulation and Up-Keep of the Queens Borough Book Bus

IN ANY DISCUSSION of book buses much is heard of the theory and very little of the actual practice of their maintenance. Librarians who are considering the installation of buses are not concerned with beautiful theories but with practical matters of their up-keep, their circulation, the comparison of their cost with that of branches and stations. In these notes, we have attempted to show what has been accomplished by that lusty infant, The Pioneer.

In June of this year The Pioneer, a book bus, started on its journey as the first unit of special county library extension in Queens County. It was as much a pioneer as any hardy adventurer crossing into new country, imbued with the desire to make new pathways. It started timidly, realizing it was an untried experiment but knowing that a real need for its welcome load of 2000 books existed in many suburban communities. Since then it has been so gratified by the response that it lost its timidity. Week by week on its 18 stops at schools, subways, "L" stations, prominent bus stops, and community centers, it has been a veritable Pied Piper in drawing readers to it, so that it felt its groaning side would burst with the crowds of anxious children and interested adults who entered its magic doors. From the first the aim of the Extension Division has been to develop the bus

service into permanent library stations, to add new stops and in time to maintain a fleet of book buses. Carefully routed after a library survey of the desirable localities, The Pioneer has been serving weekly those growing communities hitherto out of reach of the library's advantages. It has proved to be a way of serving the greatest number of people at the least expense. By this means, it is hoped to develop suburban circulations worthy of permanent local libraries.

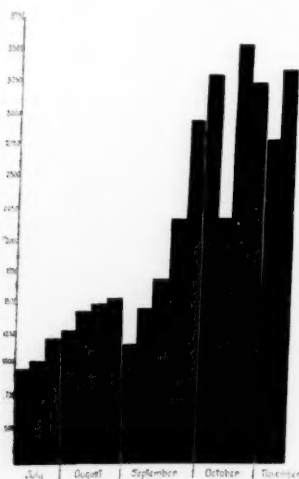
Actual circulation was begun on July 14 and has exceeded expectations even though it was a new venture and had to be sold to the communities it served. Figures for each month's circulation are given below:

July (14th to 31st)	3,951
August	5,804
September	9,688
October	14,645
November (first half of month)	7,070

Total 38,432

The first chart shows more clearly the enormous gain in circulation. When it is considered that there are no libraries within a mile or two of most Book Bus stops, it will readily be seen that this is circulation which would have been for the most part lost without this unit of extension. The Library feels that these people have just as much right to books as their more fortunate neighbors within walking distance of branches. An interesting variation in the circulation is noticed in the chart during a week in October when The Pioneer made a trip to Albany during the Conference of the New York Library Association for the purpose of stimulating public interest in county library service.

The second chart tells at a glance the circulation of each type of stop. Baisley Park at P. S. 123, where a two-hour stop is made, heads the list with a circulation well over 4,200 in 18 weeks. The crowds seeking books are so large that it is a difficult task to fill every request, and for this reason the librarian in charge of the Book Bus has suggested an evening stop in the same section if another Book Bus is added. The stop is about eight-tenths of a mile from the nearest store library and more than a mile from the main Library.



Circulation Per Week

Cooperation between the school and the bus has materially helped in the work, especially an announcement made by teachers in class every Wednesday so that the children will not forget the visit of the bus.

In striking contrast to Baisley Park is a stop such as the Rego Park Apartment House Development which was rather good at first, but now, despite advertising, such as slips placed in all the apartment letter boxes and signs posted in conspicuous places in the neighborhood, has steadily dwindled in circulation so that a change of location is necessary. A library survey has been made and another stop will be selected.

At the end of August the Book Bus was forced to discontinue one of its best stops because the road at Hamilton Beach was in such poor condition that it was impossible to use it. However, a lengthened stop was made at Howard Beach, which is nearby, and the staff was extremely surprised to find that readers walked more than a mile from Hamilton Beach for their books. The Civic Association is taking up the problem of road improvement with the Borough officials and it is to be hoped that service at this most important stop may be resumed shortly.

Twenty-four feet long with an interior width and height of seven feet, The Pioneer is a splendidly stocked small library, large enough, however, to accommodate 2,000 volumes in outside glass cases and open shelves within. It draws on a reserve stock of 10,000 volumes housed in the main library. A regularly equipped charging desk and a Dickman charging machine make it modern in every detail. A radio is part of the equipment and already stories have been broadcast over station WNYC by our official teller of children's stories and thus relayed to children waiting around the Book Bus.

We have been asked about the cost of this service to the library and its comparison with regular branch service. The following table gives the initial cost of The Pioneer and its up-keep:

Original cost of bus:	
Body	\$3,292.50
Chassis	2,494.00
Spec. equipment, brakes and springs.....	364.00
Garage rent (per month).....	25.00
Books:	
Adult, 2,443 volumes.....	3,664.50
Juvenile, 4,583 volumes.....	5,528.75
Binding, 100 juvenile titles.....	62.72
Gasoline, June to November.....	110.63
Oil (15 gallons)	15.00
Repairs (Adjusting carburetor and new vacuum tank)	17.00
Refinishing bus, retouching lettering (every 6 months) approx. per month.....	50.00
Charging batteries	10.50

Insurance	243.44
Electric light bulbs	4.00
Uniform for chauffeur	43.12

Salaries for Staff:

Librarian in charge	2,100.00
Grade 1 assistant	1,440.00
Grade 1 assistant	1,440.00
Clerk	900.00
Clerk	900.00
Clerk	900.00
Chauffeur	1,500.00

The Pioneer uses a gallon of gas for every eight miles.

The total cost of up-keep per week for gas, oil, batteries, insurance, garage rent and salaries is approximately \$195.46—a small amount when one considers what it would cost to circulate books in 18 independent communities. At a conservative estimate, the Library has found that it takes \$813.00 a week to run 18 small community store stations in order to carry on the same amount of circulation which the Book Bus does on its much smaller amount.

The Queens Borough Public Library has begun an experiment which in a few years will probably evolve into a succession of modern permanent library stations and sub-branches brought into existence by The Pioneer, whose steel nose has ferreted out readers where none existed before.



Circulation for Each Stop During Eighteen Weeks

The Oriental Department of The Goldziher Library

By HUGO BERGMANN

Director, Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem

ORIENTAL STUDIES, in European and American countries, are regarded as something in the nature of an appendage to Science; the public at large consider books upon these studies as so exceedingly remote from its own concern that only a few scholars are interested in them. The case is quite otherwise in Palestine, which is itself set in the heart of the Near East: the interests of the East are its interests, the history of the East is its history. It gives back echoes to everything that happens in the East. Reciprocal influences play between the culture of Palestine and the cultures of the nearby Eastern countries. The very term "Orient" has lost its original connotation, and we use it only in order not to alter the current usage of Western scholars. For, to us, the Orient is not some other part of the world, but that part of the world we ourselves live in. Appreciating the importance of a knowledge of the East for Palestine in general and for the Hebrew University in particular, the Zionist Executive spared neither effort nor money in order to acquire, at very high prices, the library of a famous Jewish Orientalist, the late Isaac (Ignaz) Goldziher (1850-1921), and put through the purchase in the face of keen competition on the part of rivals with vast sums at their command (some of whom were governments). The Zionist Executive in this had effective aid from a group of Zionist ladies in Rhodesia (South Africa) who raised a large sum for the purpose; and also from the Rosenbloom Fund.

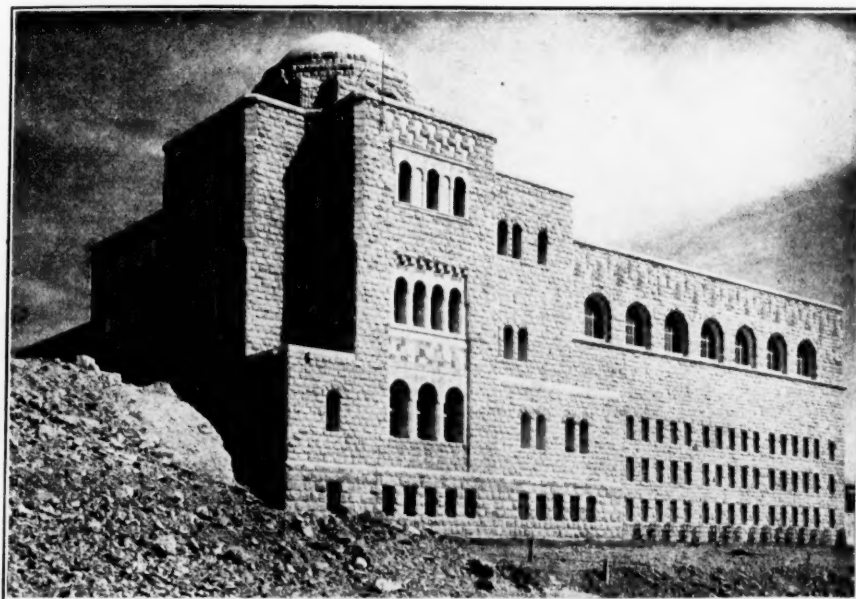
The Goldziher Library is unique in its field; and it reflects, moreover, the personality and career of the great scholar who assembled it. While still a young man, Goldziher went to Egypt in order to draw knowledge of Islam from its most revered source, the Mosque of El-Azhar. During his years of study in Egypt, Goldziher bought many ancient Oriental publications which, nowadays, are very difficult to secure. Later also, he kept up constant contacts with sellers of Eastern books, who furnished him with rare Orientalia. Works from Kazan, the center for Islamic studies in Russia, are also well represented in his Library. As for the works in his field pub-

lished in Europe during his lifetime, Goldziher usually did not have to buy them at all. For, as his fame increased until he towered above all other Islamic scholars, most leading Orientalists considered it an honour to present him with copies of their books. Moreover, many books were sent to him to be reviewed. So it came about that the Islamic and Arabic literature of Europe during that long period is almost completely represented in Goldziher's collection. But he received not only books; even larger is the number of special reprints from periodicals and scientific anthologies sent to him by his friends and admirers. Among his belongings were found numerous envelopes, each containing special reprints of articles by some individual scholar. A list of the writers of those articles would be practically equivalent to the list of Orientalists contemporary with Goldziher. The special reprints on articles on Oriental subjects alone (many of them devoted to Judaica) number almost a thousand. Especial importance attaches to this collection of reprints because many of the articles were published in general papers or periodicals, and might otherwise escape the notice of Oriental scholars. It has been stated in some quarters that the Library has also acquired Goldziher's scientific correspondence. This is incorrect.

Almost two-thirds of the 6,000 volumes of the Goldziher library pertain to Oriental science. Its chief sections are those of Islamic and Arabic literature. But it is also rich in material on the other sciences pertaining to the Near East. The value of many of the books has been enhanced by the numerous notes which Goldziher wrote on their front and back flyleaves, and also by the notes on separate slips which he left between their pages. (These slips are now filed in special envelopes). The Goldziher collection reached Jerusalem in 1925, when the work of arranging and cataloging its treasures was immediately begun. The system of the Library, which is designed to facilitate the use of the books by means of a unified classification according to subject, did not permit of the retention of the Goldziher collection as a

specific unit. It was therefore, made the basis of the Oriental Department, which will always bear the name of Goldziher, even though many books, acquired both by gift and by purchase, have since been added. For, with all its unique merits, the Goldziher library as such was not found entirely adequate to the demands of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Hebrew University. Most of the important historical texts, for

In addition to the sources already referred to, the Oriental Department has also gained much through private donations which cannot be listed here, though the Library is very grateful for all of them. Nevertheless, one outstanding gift must not be passed over in silence, namely, the collection given by Mr. Yuhanna Dawud, a Jewish scholar of Bagdad now resident in London. In Mr. Dawud's large collection, there are considerable num-



Cut By Courtesy of H. W. Wilson Company

The Exterior of the New Library of the University of Palestine

example, were lacking; and there were almost no dictionaries.

After the Institute of Oriental Studies had been established in 1926, the University met these deficiencies by making an appropriation for the purchase of books for the Oriental Department of the Library on a large scale. This appropriation was used primarily to meet the immediate requirements of the scientific work being done in the Institute, both individually and in collaboration. In 1928, the Chancellor of the University secured from an anonymous donor a sum of £2,000 for the purchase of technical books on Oriental science. This sum was very useful in extending the Oriental Department of the Library. If now the student of Oriental science will be able to secure a fairly good foundation in his subject through the University Library, much of the credit will be due to this generous gift.

bers of Persian and Arabic publications, and also books on the East. The most precious feature of this collection, however, is a batch of fifty manuscripts (most of them in Persian, and some in Arabic). The calligraphy of many of these manuscripts is of exceptional beauty. Very valuable, also, is the collection bequeathed to the Library by the late Dr. Chamizer, director of the Drugulin Press of Leipzig, which contains numerous books in the Syriac language.

The Oriental Department of the Library embraces chiefly books in the languages and literatures of the East, and also works on the history, geography, archaeology, and religions of the Eastern countries. At the University Library the usual procedure has been departed from, in that the books on the Hebrew and Aramaic languages and their literatures, and on Palestine, and all material pertaining

to the sciences of Judaism have been placed in a separate department because of their particular importance for the Jewish people. As in all the other departments of the Library, every book is placed exactly in the place corresponding to its number in the system of decimal classification, which makes the books easy to find and expedites their delivery to the readers. The reference books required by the Institute of Oriental Studies

(1846 to date). Among the complete sets of periodicals in the Library is the *Gibb Memorial Series*, which was included in the Goldziher collection, and which is regularly supplemented as new issues appear through the kindness of the trustees of the Gibb Memorial Fund. Then there are the *Veröffentlichungen der Deutschen Orientgesellschaft*; and a set of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Semiticarum*, the gift of the French Government. Manuscript



Cut By Courtesy of H. W. Wilson Company

The Newspaper Reading Room

have been placed in a separate room, for the greater convenience of the Institute staff. A young library cannot, of course, cover the whole field of Oriental studies in an equal degree throughout. The degree of completeness in the various subjects necessarily varies. At the present time, the composition of the Oriental Department is determined by two main facts—the personality of Goldziher and the needs of the Institute of Oriental Studies.

The present collection will now be briefly described in its outstanding features. Of primary importance is the collection of general periodicals on Oriental science. The Library has succeeded, for instance, in securing, in addition to other periodicals, whole sets (except for a few missing numbers) of the three great Orientalist journals of long standing, namely: *The Journal Asiatique* (1822 to date); the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (1834 to date); and the *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenlaendischen Gesellschaft*

catalogs, those very important keys to hidden treasures, have been bought extensively by the Library. The best stocked sections of the Library for particular branches of Oriental science are, of course, both from the angle of Goldziher's objective and from that of Palestinian conditions, those devoted to Arabic literature and Islamics. Within the field of Arabic literature, the Library has striven for completeness in two directions, corresponding to the two cooperative undertakings in which the Institute of Oriental Studies is engaged. These are: Classic Arabic poetry (for a concordance of this poetry); and the historical literature on the first period of Islam (for the edition of the historian Baladhuri on which the Institute is engaged). The Islamic section is especially well stocked with literature of the Shiite sect, which includes a number of rare books.

The collection of the Oriental Department is not so complete in other Oriental languages

and literatures as it is in Arabic; but good beginnings have already been made in Persian, Turkish, Syriac, Assyrian and Egyptian, and it is intended shortly to supplement the collection in the last three named. In History and Geography (the latter including Travels), the size of the collections is almost equal in respect to the various Eastern countries. In Archaeology, the preference has thus far been given to the lands and the era of Islam; but there is also a fine collection on the Ancient Orient. This Department is already an excel-

lent tool for scientific work, especially in Arabic literature and Islamics. There is no other library in Jerusalem which contains together with the literature of the East, the results of the researches of the West in connection with this literature, and the East in general. And it is reported that there is no such library throughout the whole of the Near East. It is hoped that, with the progress of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Hebrew University, the Oriental Department will be still further extended.

The Humboldt Recreational Reading Course

By C. EDWARD GRAVES

Librarian, Humboldt State Teachers College, Arcata, California

WHY SHOULDN'T college students receive credit for reading books of a general recreational type, provided that the reading is supervised in such a way as to insure the right quality and quantity? I have been propounding this question at every opportunity for the last five years and have still to receive a good negative answer; yet a mere handful of colleges in this country are doing anything at all in the field, and of these only three, so far as I have been able to find out, Humboldt, Rollins, and State Teachers College of Nebraska, are offering the work in regular classroom form. It is, of course, true that local conditions would make it advisable to vary procedure in different institutions but to me it is inconceivable that all the wisdom of this world should be permanently gathered into bundles and labelled and never handed out to eager searchers for the truth in any other form. It is quite possible indeed that a course in Recreational Reading may enable the student to free himself from some of the shackles of narrow traditional form and find a new viewpoint for the explanation of life and the universe.

The Humboldt College course in Recreational Reading was established in the spring semester of 1926. The routine management of the course, as planned at that time, has not been altered since. The purpose of the course, as stated in the college catalog, is "to introduce the student pleasurably to some of the best modern writers." Actually there is a still deeper purpose behind the course, that

of developing in the students a love of reading that may carry over into later life. Nothing finer could be done for them during their college course and nothing is less calculated to do it than the ordinary lecture or text-book course in nearly every college subject. Even in literature, the one subject that should be most of all concerned with the love of reading, the tendency to require the reading of small lists of titles selected by the instructor or determined by the needs of entrance into the large graduate schools too often reduces what should be inspiring work to the level of boredom.

The word "pleasurably" is the important one in the official description of the course. The theory behind the course is that if students are given an opportunity to read for pleasure at stated intervals set apart for that purpose in comfortable and appropriate surroundings with the incentive of credit toward graduation, they will grow to love association with good books and will form the habit of reading or will strengthen the habit, if already formed. Nearly every habit is formed by constant repetition of pleasurable activities. The reverse of that statement is the reason why too much text-book studying often kills an affection for books.

With these points in mind it was planned to have the class meet in a comfortably furnished room used for social activities that was fortunately located just across the corridor from the library. In it are upholstered davenports and rocking-chairs and a large

fire-place which is almost indispensable to the homelike atmosphere necessary for the work. In the Humboldt climate, which is very nearly uniform throughout the year, with an average maximum temperature of 57 degrees, it is possible to make use of the fireplace daily. In default of wall shelves for the books, a book truck is used to bring into the classroom a carefully selected group of about one hundred books that have been thoroughly tested for their adaptability to the use of the course. Students are not limited to these books in their reading, however, but may select any book in the library with the approval of the instructor. The book truck and the fire-place are the focal points around which the furniture is arranged in a big semi-circle.

The course carries one unit of credit, but because of the small amount of outside work required the class meets twice a week. The first ten or fifteen minutes are devoted to a talk by the instructor on some book or author or group of books and the remainder of the period is reserved for silent reading. Each student selects a book that looks interesting and dips into it long enough to find out whether it is worth finishing. If he is bored by it, he feels perfectly free to return it to the truck and try again. The greatest informality and freedom of movement is encouraged but no conversation except that which is really necessary is allowed. The suggestion has frequently been made that oral discussion by the students should be a part of the class routine. The decision against it is based on the fact that in a one-unit course it would take too much time away from the reading and also that, due to the diffusion of reading, it is difficult to find books for discussion that have been read by enough students to hold the interest of the class.

Apart from the actual reading of the books, the only student participation in the work of the course, and the only required outside work, is the writing of appreciation notes for the books read. These notes furnish the basis for determination by the instructor as to whether students have done enough reading and enough thinking about their reading to pass the course. A quotation from Professor Robert E. Rogers' book, *The Fine Art of Reading*, described so well the essence of an ideal appreciation note that it has been mimeographed and distributed to each class. It reads as follows:

"Reading a book is like dropping chemicals into a test-tube. It is dropping ideas into a brain. There should be a reaction, some kind of an explosion. No explosion, no brain. The book may be at fault,

but ten to one it is the brain which is inert. Every book contains at least one point where an idea touches your personality and your life, is of immediate interest to you. It may be an idea, it may be an experience. There is the spring-board for your dive into your own spirit. No book but contains a text which you can illustrate from your own interests and memories. A good book will contain dozens. You must jot them down as you come to them. Then, while the book is still fresh in your memory, play solitaire with your jottings. Out of them will emerge a main theme, a critical conception. The others will hang on that main theme like cooking pots on a crane. And presently you will be sure in your own mind what you think about that book and why you think it. It is not a process of applying rules, or copying down other men's notions. The ideas of the most famous critic are less useful to you than something you have sweated out for yourself in this fashion. That is why all teaching of literature can be nothing but the attempt to build up this power of response in the reader."

This concept of an "explosion in the brain" to be recorded on paper seems to be grasped very quickly by the students. The old-style book note which merely retells the plot of the story has almost entirely disappeared.

There are very few requirements in the course. The most important is that students must read as many non-fiction books as fiction. The main reason for this requirement is that we want them to explore the various types of literature as thoroughly as possible in the limited time available. A good fiction book should furnish the occasion for as much serious thinking as a book of essays or poetry, but sometimes the element of curiosity as to the working out of the plot overbalances the other mental processes; therefore a variety in book selection is advisable. We require the examination of two books, Jesse Lee Bennett's *What Books Can Do for You* and Asa Don Dickinson's *One Thousand Best Books*, and the writing of a descriptive note about each. This gives students a comprehensive survey of the whole field of good literature and acquaints them with guides that may be used later on. Books may be taken from the class collection for home reading and usually a good proportion of the class avail themselves of this privilege, especially over the week-ends.

In our college catalog we also list an advanced course in Recreational Reading, the purpose of which is "to introduce the student pleasurably to the world classics—the best literature of all times and countries." Because of the small college registration and the large number of required courses, resulting in intensive competition between all the elective courses, it has only been possible to give this advanced course once, since it is only open to the small number of students who have taken the first

course. Under more favorable circumstances, that is, with a large college registration and more freedom in the choice of electives, I believe it is quite possible to cover the whole field of appreciation of literature in a series of courses in Recreational Reading graded from the freshman to the senior years. The freshman course would include the easiest type of good reading but would not exclude excursions into more difficult fields, while the senior course would include only world classics and would exclude the freshman type of reading. This procedure would reverse the present customary education of young people in matters literary. Starting with required Shakespeare in high school, they usually end up with Zane Grey as college seniors. How many laments does one hear, including some from college teachers of literature, that the appreciation of Shakespeare was spoiled because he was forced upon minds not ready for him! And yet so great is the inertia of long-established and conservative customs that the educational world is not yet ready for this revolution.

The registration of our classes in Recreational Reading has run quite steadily between fifteen and twenty, in spite of the fact that our total college registration at any one time is rarely over 250 and that approximately 85 per cent of every student's schedule is filled with required subjects. This is an ideal size for a class of this kind. Students should be free from the sense of oppression that accompanies the presence of a large group of people in a small room. We have during the last year offered an additional unit of credit for a repetition of the course and several students have taken advantage of it. The result is a two-unit course, spread over two semesters, but with some repetition of preliminary discussions. The courses are listed under the English Department as English 30 and 31, and are allowed full transfer credit.

As compared with a program of recreational reading that relies on library publicity for interesting books but does not give credit for reading them, I think that we have much the better of the argument. College life is so highly organized today that students have very little time for anything of an educational nature that does not help them with their college work. Any time left over from the preparation of "assignments" finds number-

less forms of extra-curricular activities waiting to utilize it. To display an interesting book on a book rack or in a special exhibition is like inviting students to enjoy surreptitious pleasures. If any of them yield to the temptation of a particularly alluring book and take it home with them, there is no guarantee that it will be read. From my own personal experience as a student-reader I should say that very frequently it remains as nothing more than a temptation until the time comes to return it. A credit course removes this uncertainty of fulfillment and furthermore by destroying any twinges of the reader's conscience on the subject of stolen pleasures, creates the proper attitude of mind for genuine appreciation.

The success of the work makes more vivid visions that have occasionally come as to the teaching of the humanities in American colleges of the future. There are increasing signs of the fulfillment at no far-off future date of Dean Russell's prophecy in *School Library Yearbook No. Two* that "the time may come when there will be neither libraries in schools nor schools in libraries, but a new educational institution will emerge which combines the best features of both." The elimination of formal classrooms may be the first step, accompanied by a decentralization of library storage. The enthusiasm that comes from the recreational element in reading and study may create a demand for instructors who are grounded in library technique and the principles of silent reading as well as broad-minded specialists in some particular field of human knowledge. A large and commodious professor's study, arranged and indexed in orderly library fashion, might conceivably be the unit of instructional space that would at first displace formal classrooms. Probably the needs of mass education in our large public universities and the stringency of regulations decreed from without in the smaller state colleges will force the leadership in these new methods of education into the hands of the endowed institutions. The final result can only be a matter of guess-work at present, but certain it is that time-honored traditions are being shattered on every side and that librarians, as well as other educational administrators, must make every effort to keep the ruts smoothed out in preparation for prompt action.

Love and friendship and humor and ships at sea by night—there's all heaven and earth in a real book.

—CHRISTOPHER MORLEY.

Book Consciousness in a College

By RALPH SHERMAN CLARK

Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida

IT HAS TAKEN American education three-quarters of a century to adopt a suggestion made by Ralph Waldo Emerson in his essay on "Books," when he said:

"The Colleges, whilst they provide us with libraries, furnish no Professors of Books; and, I think, no chair is so much needed."

This plea for a professorship of books might still be in the limbo for lost ideas if it were not for Dr. Hamilton Holt, President of Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, and one time editor of *The Independent*. In 1924, Dr. Holt established the first Professorship of Books in America, and Edwin Osgood Grover was appointed the first occupant of this chair. That there is a lure in Professor Grover's title none can deny. While its fascination may lie in the fact that it was coined by Emerson, doubtless there is a deeper significance to be found in the realm of suppressed desires and long felt needs. How many thousands of college students have longed for a sort of omniscient, sympathetic, and versatile librarian and teacher who would be able to direct not only classroom but recreational reading!

Francis Bacon long ago discussed the importance of knowing which books are to be tasted, which to be swallowed, and which are to be chewed and digested.

"If a man read little," he said, "he has need of much cunning to seem to know that he doth not."

Surely nothing puzzles the present day reader of fiction, both past and present, more than "what to read." Our Book of the Month Clubs, assuming a somewhat paternal attitude, have attempted to solve this distressing problem for us so far as current literature is concerned. But what of the books of the past? What of all those past records that represent the wisdom and wit of great men of all countries and ages! To read all of these books would be impossible for even a diligent man, who, were he to undertake to peruse all the sagas and sages would very likely find himself at the end of fifty years still in the first alcoves or buried in the stacks. For the number of pages even an editor can read in one day is limited. To quote Emerson:

"It seems as if some charitable soul, after losing a great deal of time among the false books, and

alighting upon a few true ones which made him happy and wise, would do a right act in naming those which have been bridges or ships to carry him safely over dark morasses and barren oceans, into the heart of sacred cities, into palaces and temples."

Now, at last, a start has been made. Professor Edwin Osgood Grover of Rollins College is the first Professor of Books in the United States. He is there to guide the recreational reading of students, and to give courses which aim to develop reading habits, and to interest the student in the history and significance of books. A course in American and English literature gives students some idea as to the varying degrees of mental mastication certain types of books have a right to demand. Another purpose of the course is to discover the student's tastes and to direct his recreational reading in accordance with his proclivities. For at Rollins, Emerson's dictum,

"The best rule of reading will be a method from Nature, and not a mechanical one of hours and pages,"

is followed. Each student is held to a "pursuit of his native aim, instead of a desultory miscellany." Professor Grover and Dr. Holt agree with Shakespeare that:

"No profit goes where is no pleasure ta'en;
In brief, sir, study what you most affect."

In addition to the reading course is a course in literary personalities, which deals with the human side of biographies, and a unique course in the history of the book, which includes the history of books from Babylonian times to the present, a survey of the most notable presses of Italy, Switzerland, Germany, France, Holland, England and America, and modern methods of typesetting and engraving. In these days when interest in bookmaking is keener than ever, this course holds a special lure.

In June, 1931, Edwin Osgood Grover will complete his fifth year as Professor of Books at Rollins College. Enough water has passed over the dam in that time to justify the question of what the Professor of Books has accomplished. One of Professor Grover's first duties was to adapt his courses to the Rollins Conference Plan of Study which substitutes two-hour conferences for the conventional lec-

ture and recitation system. In place of the usual conventional classroom arrangement, he had a fourteen-foot oval table built and covered with green felt. About this are grouped comfortable armchairs. The psychology of tying the class together about the large table was effective and resulted in a group feeling that could not be secured in any other way. Across one end of the room are open bookcases containing about 1000 selected books from every field of literature which serves as a departmental library. On the walls are old mis-
sals, auto-
graphed
portraits,
rubblings
from Shake-
speare's
tomb, and
other book-
ish pictures
that help to
give the
room the
appearance
of a private
library. Mr.
Grover feels
that there is
really no
reason for
the barn-
like class
rooms that
are found
in most of
our colleges.

What Dr. Grover has done to make the campus "book conscious" is best exemplified by this statement from a student:

"I, myself, was suffering from a serious overdose of the classics when I enrolled in the Reading Course. I had heard Edwin Osgood Grover hailed as the first Professor of Books, but I confess that I entered his class with an attitude of suspicion and with secret reservations that I would quickly withdraw at the first sign of literary snobbery.

"That I have since eagerly assimilated every course offered by Dr. Grover and have also come forth triumphantly from the Dean's Office after a struggle for permission to repeat the Reading Course should be positive proof of Mr. Grover's success with seekers after a normal and healthy reading appetite."

The manner in which Mr. Grover develops book enthusiasts from literary anaemics could and should be adopted by other professors throughout the country. "It is a painless process of cultural development which overtakes the student unaware," says a student.

And the gradual evolution of a reader is a procedure of deep significance to present American education.

Mr. Grover's procedure in distributing book knowledge is essentially the same in all his courses. He accustoms the student to the association of books and manuscripts by actual and prolonged contact with them. He illustrates his remarks by the reality of an example. He throws open for student inspection his personal collection of rare literary objects, while his private library is gen-

erously scattered throughout the dormitories and the homes of his young friends. Most important of all, his enthusiasm for his subject is so genuine and so infectious that the student invariably absorbs this attitude and adopts it for his own. Besides holding the post of Professor of Books, Mr.



A Class in "Books" in Session at Rollins College

Grover also directs the College Library.

It is not an exaggeration to report that the "book consciousness" instilled by Dr. Grover in the minds of Rollins College students has been spreading throughout the Winter Park community. The evidence to substantiate this assertion is the success of "The Bookery," which may well take its place as Exhibit A in the first of Professor Grover's extra-curricula activities. When Dr. Grover came to Rollins four years ago, he found an astonishing condition. Although Winter Park was a typical college town of about 4000 inhabitants, there was no bookstore in town, and what is more, there was no demand for one. The college students serenely bought their books from a drugstore, picking them up from the floor where they were stored. The Professor of Books assumed the task of encouraging the establishing of an artistic bookstore. He

found someone who was looking for a job and who had a few hundred dollars of working capital. A little bookshop, fifteen by twenty, was set up and christened "The Bookery," with the sub-title "The Haunted Bookshop." The Bookery quickly became the rendezvous for a large group of college students and has been a distinct cultural advantage to the college and the town. Another extra-curricular activity of Professor Grover was the establishing of an under-graduate magazine called *The Flamingo*. *The Flamingo* has just closed its fifth year, serving as an outlet for the remarkable creative writing that is being done by the Rollins students as a result of the unique Conference Plan of Teaching.

Perhaps the reason for Dr. Grover's enthusiasm for books and his job of "professing them" goes back to his experience as a youngster.

"When I was a young fellow in high school," he says, "I heartily disliked books. Hadn't I been made to read them page by page and, what is more, to study them? Consequently, I was suspicious of all books, and if I could avoid meeting one by crossing over and going down the other side of the street I always did so.

"For some unaccountable reason, books did not interest me. I liked people, and things that were alive. I was keenly interested in the world about me—the things I could hear and see and touch. And they even let me graduate from high school in this ignorant condition. They did not know any better in those days.

"But when I went to Dartmouth College—I met a man! Nearly all the great things in our lives, the turning points, are the result of our meeting a man, the rare man who understands. I think I liked this man all the better because the boys called him 'Clothespins.' Little by little 'Clothespins' opened my eyes to the meaning of books—that they were in a real sense 'people.' And just as there are all sorts of people in the world so there are all sorts of books—good books, bad books, funny books, solemn books, beautiful books, ugly books, wise books, stupid books, and fifty-seven other varieties.

"I gradually came to see that although I could not meet in the flesh the great men and women who had done the great things in the world, I could at least meet them in the books they had written, or in the books that had been written about them. This was my first great discovery! I at once began to use the college library, to browse along the loaded shelves, finding a thrilling story here, a book of homely verse there, a volume of essays that had a mysterious quality about it that I have since learned to call 'style.' It was in this way that I began my real education. From that day to this, books have been my best friends, until now my thousands of books, that came in one at a time, like the nose of the camel, have almost crowded my wife and children out upon the street. When I get lonely or blue, when things go wrong, as they sometimes do 'in life's little kindergarten,' when I need companionship or help, I go into my library and sit down and talk it over with Ralph Waldo Emerson or let Robert Louis Stevenson carry me away in search of hidden treasure until I forget my troubles and imagine that I am a boy again."

It is quite possible that, twenty years from now, some one of Mr. Grover's students will reflect: "But when I went to Rollins College, —I met a man!"

Peru, Nebraska, Reading Course

RECREATIONAL READING—An endeavor to give students an opportunity to read for pure enjoyment. Students follow own tastes in reading, howbeit under supervision. Informal talks and personal advice by instructor. Second semester: two hours attendance, one hour credit.

The above clipped from the recent State Teachers College of Peru, Nebraska, catalog is self-explanatory. The course is also offered in Summer School. It is a very popular course—and it has to be limited because of the facilities available, to forty students. Students are required to read at least eight books a Semester—one each of biography, travel, essay, history, poetry, drama and fiction (standard and modern). They may make the choice of the particular title they wish and the librarian stands ready to assist in advice and encouragement. Besides this each student is given at the beginning of the course a booklet put out by the Gaylord

Brothers entitled "Books I Have Read." For each book attempted they enter the facts asked for. If they start a book and do not like it, they may select another, being careful to tell *why* they do not care for it. Instead of giving the *plot* they write simply their own reaction to all books that they read. This college has had as high as thirty books read during a semester; in such cases they have read outside of class. Twelve is the average—and as low as seven by conscientious students. From five to seven minutes is given at the opening of the hour to discussion of interest to the subject. Sometimes this discussion is by the librarian, sometimes by students who keep their eyes open for current information interesting and noteworthy for intelligent readers. It is felt that such a course is very valuable to college students who are nearly swamped by required reading. The aim is to direct them in choosing what they shall read and it has been tried for four years and works!

Librarian Authors

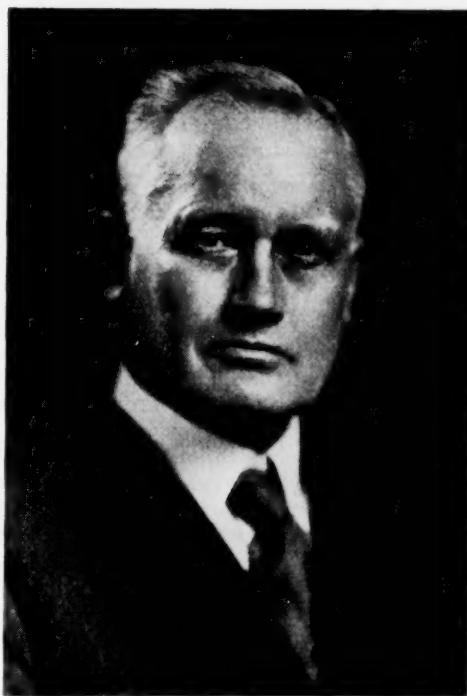
HENRY O. SEVERANCE was born in St. Johns, Michigan, reared on the farm, taught two terms in the district schools and served two years as Superintendent of Schools at Lakeview, Michigan. He was trained for the profession of teaching, graduating from the Michigan Normal College in 1891 and after two years as Superintendent of Schools, reentered the College and secured the Degree of B.Pd. in 1894. Graduated from the University of Michigan with a B.A. Degree in 1897 and a Master's Degree in 1899. The other Degrees were honorary: the Master of Pedagogy (M.Pd.) conferred in 1912 by the Michigan Normal College; the Litt.D. conferred by Central College, Fayette, Missouri in 1929.

After graduation from the University in 1897, he received an appointment as assistant in the University Library. After nine years service here, he was elected librarian of the University of Missouri, to which he has given continued service since January 1907. A résumé of his work as librarian is given in his *History of the Library*.

Mr. Severance was the first Camp Librarian in the late war. At the request of Purd B. Wright of Kansas City, he took charge of library work at Fort Riley and Camp Funston, September 14 to 28, 1917, a period preceding the initiation of the Library War Service of the American Library Association. Early in 1919 he was commissioned by the Library War Service to visit the training camps in the southern states west of the Mississippi River, for the encouragement of vocational education through the camp libraries. The Library War Service then wanted him to come to Washington as Manager of Camp Libraries in the United States. He held this position until October 1919, when the War Department took over the library war work.

The Library work with the Army of Occupation at Coblenz and the work of the American Library in Paris was continued. Mr. Severance was made European Representative of the American Library Association and Librarian of the American Library in Paris and Director of the Library Service for the Army of Occupation in Coblenz from January to July 1920.

When Mr. Severance was Assistant in the University of Michigan Library, he became interested in periodical literature which led to the compilation of the *Guide to the Periodicals and Serials of the United States and*



Henry O. Severance

Canada which has run through four editions. The *Library Primer for High Schools* is the result of his teaching summer courses in Library Science to prepare teachers for caring for high school libraries. He has compiled also the *Severance Genealogy 1927* and has written the *History of the University of Missouri Library*, 1928; *Michigan Trailmakers*, 1930; and *The Story of a Village Community* (in press). He has made numerous contributions to professional and other journals and to the *University Bulletins*. Some of these are: "The Folk of Our Town" (*Michigan History Magazine*); "Facilities and Resources of the University Library for Graduate Work" (*Bulletin*); "Reports of the Committee for the Encouragement of Research" (*American Library Institute Proceedings* and in *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL*); "The Columbia Library 1866-1892" (*Missouri Historical Review*); "A Standard Library Organization for Missouri High Schools" (*Bulletin*); "Missouri University Librarians, 1849 to 1896" (*Missouri Alumnus*). Mr. Severance is one of the Editors of the *University of Missouri Studies*, a Quarterly of Research.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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Editorial Forum

THE MID-WINTER meetings at Chicago centered upon the report of the Committee on A. L. A. Activities to which the Council gave all of its time on the first day and most of its time on the second day of the two-day session. There was surprise on the part of the committee, and perhaps some disappointment in the membership, that as between pros and cons the contra side came little to the front, although on motion the floor was open to others than members of the Council. Most of the questions raised in the committee report were passed on to the Executive Board for final decision, but there was general gratification that questions had been raised connected vitally with the various branches of A. L. A. work. The excellent report of Dr. Louis Wilson for the Board of Education for Librarianship was received with satisfaction, especially the explanation that members of library school faculties were not included because it was desired to get an exterior rather than an interior view of the work of the schools, but criticism was voiced that the schools which had been examined, sometimes cursorily, were left in ignorance of suggestions for improvements which the examiners might make. Questions connected with the *Bulletin* and the *Booklist* came to the fore and it was voted that the *Bulletin* might wisely supersede the *Adult Education and the Library* and *Extension News* publications by including these subjects more fully in its columns. The question raised by the report of the editor of the *Bulletin* in a suggestion that membership dues might be raised from \$2 to \$3 to enable the *Bulletin* to be extended and made more interesting provoked the only warm discussion of the session. The problem of bringing the *Booklist* up to date, while obtaining the professional opinion of librarians on current book publications, was referred to a new committee of three for later considera-

tion and report. It is rather to be regretted that at the request of Chairman Compton the Committee on A. L. A. Activities was dismissed with thanks for its report, but it is to be hoped that this method of overseeing the work of the complicated organization of the A. L. A. from outside official personnel may be continued, perhaps by the appointment of a fresh committee every two or three years.

THE SINGLE meeting of the American Library Institute had a wider range of topics and was especially interesting for the report on the characteristically complicated proffer of the Lake Placid Club (printed in *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* of December 15, 1930) for the inclusion of a "library colony" among its features that had been approved by the Institute committee, which committee was discharged with thanks but asked to continue as an independent organization, thus separating the project from Institute responsibility. Dr. Koopman's emphasis on the desirability of leaving a library building interior more flexible by the use of removable instead of permanent partitions, allowing for the extension of administrative units as they develop, brought out an interesting discussion. The very title of Dr. Van Hoesen's paper, "Reading vs. Learning," challenged attention. There was regret at the absence of Mr. Solberg, recently returned from Europe, whose paper criticizing features of the pending copyright bill was presented by Mr. Meyer and was later questioned in the matter of importation in a letter from Chairman Cannon of the A. L. A. Committee on Book Buying.

THE LATEST feature of the mid-winter sessions has been the meeting of "large librarians" which proved so popular that it was thought necessary to confine it to representatives of libraries in cities of not less than 100,000 inhabitants, admission being restricted to ticket holders. It has been understood that this was to promote the freest discussion of library problems such as the employment of married women, the old problem of preventing theft, the extension of free borrowing privileges to suburbanites, the danger of "overproduction" of trained librarians with

the increasing popularity of library schools, etc., and the informal discussion of such topics proved extremely useful — perhaps justifying the ban on publication. The League of Library Commissions, on the other hand, had wide open doors, the sessions being devoted chiefly to emphasizing the need of a constructive program for state-wide and nation-wide library extension.

THE REPORT of the Librarian of Congress shows a year of prosperity unexampled in the history of that institution or any national or other library. The addition of 196,632 accessions, the greatest in any year, brings the total number, inclusive of the law library, to 4,103,936, a rate of increase which will soon make our national library beyond question the largest in the world. The appropriation of \$6,500,000 for the much needed annex, in addition to that securing the land adjacent to the present building, and an appropriation for current expenditure greater than ever before, show the confidence and pride of the Congress in its Library. Although the addition of the Vollbehr collection cannot bring it to parity with the historic libraries of Europe, it nevertheless strengthens the Library of Congress to an important position in the field of incunabula. The library has been enabled through an appropriation from the Guggenheim fund to add a Chair of Aeronautics to its scholarly equipment to be filled by Prof. Albert H. Zahn, a foremost expert in this field. The retirement of the veterans Martel, Koenig and Solberg under age limitation from their respective posts is suitably recognized, especially in a worthy tribute to Mr. Solberg's unique record as the sole Register of Copyrights. The library will gain by the accession of Dr. Henry Furst, chief of the Division of Documents, and of David Haykin from the Queens Borough system, in charge of Decimal classification numbers on L. C. cards.

IT HAS BECOME almost proverbial that lawyers should not draw their own wills. The long litigation over the Tilden bequest for the New York Public Library was an illustration, and a more recent one is the contest over the will of the late Josiah H. Benton, long a trustee of the Boston Public

Library, whose bequest of the income from a fund of \$100,000 and on the death of his wife, the residue of the estate, was restricted to the years in which the city of Boston should appropriate to the library at least 3 per cent. of its total appropriations, the income in other years to go to the Rector of Trinity Church for the benefit of the poor of Boston. The condition is difficult of construction because the appropriations for police, for schools and for other activities are not made by the municipality as such and whether the library will profit by its trustee's bequest is still a matter of doubt. The "dead hand" which imposes upon the future conditions which may become altogether inapplicable too often defeats the generous purpose of a would-be benefactor.

THE LIBRARY profession will learn with deep sympathy the sad fact that Mary Eileen Ahern was at Christmas time suddenly stricken with complete blindness, although it is hoped that this condition may be mitigated if not altogether remedied by treatment which she is undergoing at the Fletcher Sanitarium in Indianapolis. Miss Ahern, whose eyes have always been strained by myopic conditions, attributes this sad culmination specifically to the work imposed upon her sight in reading carbon duplicates of reports and information which have come to her editorial desk, too often in such thoughtless and careless shape as to be almost illegible, and this should be a note of warning that such tasks should not be imposed upon editors or correspondents otherwise. Miss Ahern's devotion to the cause of libraries, professionally, editorially and personally, has been persistent and complete throughout the many years in which she has been associated with libraries and her library friendships are not only nation-wide but extend to countries beyond sea. Her presence at library gatherings, of which she has attended probably more than any other person, has meant much in stimulating keen discussion of topics throughout the library field, for few have had such varied experience as she. It will be the universal hope throughout the library profession that sight may be restored to her and that, in any event, her vigorous personality may not be lost through this misfortune in the field which she has made her own.

A. L. A. Midwinter Meeting—I

Council Covers Activities Report

IN A TWO-DAY CONFERENCE the Council of the American Library Association devoted practically all of its time to discussion of the report of the A.L.A. Activities Committee, presented by Charles H. Compton, Chairman. The recommendations of this Committee were printed in full in the December 1, 1930 issue of *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* and in this brief report will be referred to merely by heading and in the order presented in this issue. The recommendations in regard to Headquarters, Library Extension, and Adult Education were accepted as read. The report from the Board of Education for Librarianship prepared by Dr. Louis Wilson, and read in his absence by James I. Wyer, was referred to the Executive Board. Lack of money was the answer to the criticism of lack of activities and publications for the College and Reference Section. In regard to Publications, it was recommended that a committee of three be appointed to study the difficult problem of making *The Booklist* more prompt and useful. In the report of *The Bulletin*, presented by Mrs. Rossell, it was recommended that *Adult Education* and *The Library*, now a quarterly bulletin, and the *Extension News* be included in *The Bulletin*, that complete papers of importance especially those given before General Sessions be printed in *The Bulletin* and more freedom given to its Editor. The discussion of having A.L.A. meetings every two years and regional meetings in the intervening years was referred to the Executive Board after a discussion.

The Membership, Activities, Salaries, and Pensions recommendations, discussed by Harold Brigham, and the A.L.A. Headquarters Building Committee report, presented by H. H. B. Meyer, were accepted without discussion. Edward F. Stevens presented a report from the Book Production Committee. Two projects were presented, that of the expansion of the D. C. Classification, class of 000 Book Rarities, so as to enable general libraries to classify and catalog collections relating to the Arts of Printing and the project of the Book Production Committee of the A.L.A. producing books. This suggestion was called forth by the fact that publishers are abandoning literary classics and allowing them to lapse into cheap editions unworthy and unfitted for library use. The report of the Com-

mittee on Libraries in National Parks, presented by Mr. Milam in the absence of C. Edward Graves, proposed a resolution favoring the participation of the A.L.A. in an advisory capacity in the work of library development in national parks and pledged assistance in the work of raising funds from the educational foundations or from private sources. The Council passed that part of the resolution favoring the participation of A.L.A. in an advisory capacity only. A report of the Committee on the establishing of a Statistical Bureau at Headquarters was presented by Mr. Compton, in the absence of Mr. Bowerman. The Committee on Library Extension presented a resolution asking the Council to endorse the principle of federal aid which advocated the appropriation by Congress of one hundred million dollars as an equalizing and stimulating fund for rural public library service; the fund to be administered by a Federal commission of not to exceed five members and to be available during a ten-year period to counties or other large units which organize or maintain public libraries for service to all the people. The Council endorsed the principle of this resolution only. The concluding business was a report by Mr. Lydenberg of a recommendation from Mr. Monnette on the establishment of a genealogy library. This was voted to be returned with additions that it was not a field of library activities in which the American Library Association could take part, but would depend on local cooperation.

American Library Institute

PRESIDENT KOOPMAN'S address on "Flexibility versus Rigidity in Library Planning" dealt first with the library building, showing the superior adaptability of a building with removable partitions inside and with clear space outside for the extension of any or all administrative units. He also suggested possibility of adaptability to changing needs in matters of library routine, notably in the classification of books.

In the following discussion, Dr. Bostwick regretted that so few libraries had been built and organized in this fashion. Mr. Van Hoesen pointed out a number of specific advantages resulting from the flexibility of the John Hay Library building at Brown Uni-

versity. Messrs. Stevens and Hill spoke of the discarding of books as relieving the congestion in book-storage and as being desirable in itself. Messrs. Koopman, Gerould and Hanson pointed out the dangers and difficulties of discarding anything but duplicates from university and reference libraries. Mr. Gerould, however, also warned against unnecessary duplication of books in neighboring libraries—"the great job of the next generation is so to correlate our libraries. . . that they will, with the greatest economy in space and in use of funds, provide a maximum of service in specific fields."

A report on the proposed Library Colony at the Lake Placid Club was read by Mr. Hill in the absence of the Chairman, Mr. H. O. Brigham. The Lake Placid Club has signed an agreement¹ with this committee confirming the favorable terms which have been granted by the Lake Placid Club to individual librarians from time to time during recent years, and, pending some necessary building changes, holds out hopes of very favorable terms indeed for camp sites, cottages, and room and board. Mr. Ranck queried the inclination of librarians to spend vacations together but Messrs. Hill and Van Hoesen were able to report favorable answers to such a query. On motion of Mr. Gerould, the report was received, and the Committee was discharged with thanks for its important service and asked to continue as an independent organization.

Mr. Severance's report on "Research in the Library Field" was much briefer than his previous reports, owing to a more restricted definition of *research*. The Committee's request that it be discharged was granted, although some of the fellows afterward expressed regrets.

In Mr. Solberg's absence, Mr. Meyer read his paper on "Copyright and the Prohibition of Importation of Books."² The paper included a clear exposition of the present copyright law and of Section 30 of H. R. 6990 which was introduced on Dec. 9, 1929. This section prohibits the importation of an English book of which the author has assigned the U. S. copyright to an American publisher. A subsection grants the right to import one copy, provided the American publisher does not within ten days after written demand agree to supply the desired book, and the

amended bill (H. R. 12549) restores libraries to their present status. But, the individual, says Mr. Solberg, "must first try to ascertain whether the book has been reprinted in the United States and whether it has been duly deposited and registered for copyright and by whom. He can only obtain this information authoritatively upon inquiry in the Copyright Office. But such deposit and registration are often delayed for weeks and months. If, however, the would-be purchaser has ascertained the fact, he may then send his order for the book to the American publisher of it; but he must then wait ten days to further ascertain whether the latter will decline to supply the book or simply neglect his order." Another undesirable feature of the bill is the limiting (to five) of the number of books which incoming foreigners may bring in as personal baggage.

At Mr. Solberg's suggestion, the meeting voted to recommend to the Hon. Albert H. Vestal, Chairman of the Committee on Patents of the House of Representatives, that subsections (b) and (c) of Section 30 of the bill H. R. no. 12549 be amended and that the *proviso* added to Section 30 (d) be stricken out.

In the discussion of Mr. Solberg's paper by Messrs. Meyer, Raney and others, tribute was paid to Mr. Solberg's great services as Register of Copyrights. Mr. Raney spoke of several other features of the bill, but urged in its favor that it lets down the two bars to entering the International Copyright Union, by eliminating the manufacturing and deposit clauses.

Mr. Van Hoesen's paper on "Reading versus Learning" pointed out a danger of obscuring or confusing the two objectives, amusement and education, by the tendency, on the one hand, to deprecate reading for mere wholesome entertainment and, on the other hand, to elevate "serious reading" to a function which only study can perform in the pursuit of learning. We need some division of circulation statistics more adequate than fiction and non-fiction as a basis for estimating the library's contribution to amusement, culture and education. Public libraries should recognize wholesome amusement as a worthy objective and, in their adult education program, should not emphasize "readable books" to the exclusion of study material like text books and scientific monographs. University libraries, on the other hand, still have much to learn from public libraries in cultivating the reading habit, since it is this, rather than the study habit, which the school or college graduate is able and inclined to follow when his

¹ cf. THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, Dec. 15, 1930, p. 1033.

² A letter from Carl Cannon, chairman of the A. A. Committee on Book Buying, sent to Mr. Milam to be read into the records in connection with this paper was received too late to be run in here. It will be found on p. 81.

education becomes no longer his primary occupation, but an activity secondary to his business or profession.

There was a brief business session. On Mr. Lydenberg's motion, the Secretary was instructed to insert in the minutes an expression of our keen sense of loss in the death of Clement W. Andrews and our sincere appreciation of his distinguished services to the profession.

The Treasurer's report was received, and amendments to the constitution were proposed enabling the Institute Board to appoint Officers and Fellows to fill vacancies remaining unfilled after a regular election. A suggested resolution endorsing the celebration of the two-hundredth anniversary of George Washington in 1932 was laid on the table.

Just at the close of the meeting, word was brought of Miss Ahern's unfortunate illness and a resolution of sympathy was passed by a rising vote.

HENRY B. VAN HOESEN, *Retiring Secretary*

League Of Library Commissions

THE NEED of a constructive program for state-wide and nation-wide library extension, with state and federal aid was emphasized in the sessions of the League of Library Commissions, December 29 and 30. Leora J. Lewis, president of the League, presided. In developing a library consciousness among rural people, C. B. Lester of the Wisconsin Commission stressed the need for fundamental education as to the value of reading, with proportionate emphasis upon the recreational appeal to adults. He advocated state equalization, and the importance of making estimates of cost in per capita terms in order to convince rural people that expenditure for county libraries is wise and reasonable.

A program for state-wide library publicity, according to Joseph L. Wheeler, of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, should include (1) publicity concerning the work of the Commission, (2) publicity concerning the work throughout the state, the Commission acting as a clearing-house of news, and (3) publicity by and for the small library itself. Glenn Holloway, a trustee of the Concordia Parish Library, Louisiana, made a stirring plea for federal aid for county libraries, which he claimed was logical, justified by precedents already established by the government, and more important for developing an intelligent citizenship, than aid to develop further wealth. A resolution was passed endorsing the principle of federal aid for libraries

and library service, and asking the A. L. A. to foster the movement for a stimulating fund of \$100,000,000 to cover a ten-year program for library development.

The part of the league in the national library program was outlined by Essae M. Culver of the Louisiana Library Commission. She proposed the adoption of certain projects for accomplishment each year, such as, (1) Diffusion of knowledge among ourselves of the library profession, (2) Enlisting the interest of more citizens outside the profession, (3) Work for more field workers, (4) Better training facilities for county workers and state extension workers, and (5) Aid for county extension, state and federal. Resolutions were passed expressing approval of the Rural Library Extension Institute, and urging the need of special training courses for state and county library workers.

The problems faced by a young commission were presented by Christine Sanders, Arkansas Free Library Service Bureau. These include the financial problem of keeping one's program within the limits of the budget, maintaining a balance between the demand for immediate state book-service and intensive field work, the necessity of consolidating all library extension agencies, so that a constructive library program may be developed, and the problem of the small library which is often a stumbling-block in the way of county libraries. Has the traveling library been outgrown as a method for rural book distribution? was answered by Louis J. Bailey, of the Indiana State Library. As the oldest form of Commission service it is still in use in 37 states, but its use is being modified and the fixed groups are giving way to special loans. In California, with the development of county libraries, it has been discontinued entirely.

The need of a survey of library commission practices and policies was presented by Lillian E. Cook, North Dakota Library Commission, with the recommendation that it be undertaken. It was voted that a committee be appointed to investigate the cost of making such a survey and methods of work, and report at the annual meeting in June.

CLARA F. BALDWIN, *Acting Secretary*.

(Review continued from page 83)

information to identify each publication. To those librarians who have become alarmed at the increasing disorderliness of their rapidly growing collections of League documents, and who are of a mind to do something about it, this work will be very useful.

THEODORE NORTON
University of Michigan Library.

Vestal Copyright Measure

Mr. Carl H. Milam, Secretary
American Library Association,
520 North Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Milam:

I should like to have the following read into the record in connection with Mr. Solberg's address at the Institute meeting—if it is possible to do so without violating the proprieties.

As Chairman of the Book Buying Committee of the American Library Association, I have been interested in seeing the advance notice of Mr. Solberg's address before the Institute on the subject of copyright and the prohibition of the importation of books.

From the brief account of Mr. Solberg's address, released by the Publicity Bureau of the American Library Association, it appears that he believes the Vestal copyright measure now before Congress prohibits the importation of the English author's edition by individuals in the United States. This is not my understanding of the language of the act. This point was very carefully discussed with the publishers and the publishers' representatives at Washington last April.

As the language was originally drawn by the publishers, the importation of books from England was prohibited both for libraries and for individuals. After conference, however, they agreed to allow the provisions for the importation of books by public libraries to remain the same as under the present act, but to restrict individuals so far as importing English copies directly was concerned.

In our discussions, and in the language of the bill as drawn, it was the intention of the conferees to admit the right of an American individual to import English editions. The bill provides an exception to the general prohibition against importation which is:

"(b) when imported, not more than one copy of any such work on any one invoice, for individual use and not for sale or hire, provided that within ten days prior to the date of the ordering of such copy for importation, the proprietor of the United States copyright or rights to such work, within 10 days after written demand for a copy of such work specifying that such copy is desired for use and not for sale or hire, shall have declined or neglected to agree to supply *the copy demanded* at a price equivalent to the foreign price thereof and transportation charges, plus customs duties when subject thereto."

Boiled down, this means that the American individual may import a British copy, *the copy demanded* directly, if the proprietor of the United States copyright fails within 10 days to import the copy demanded at a price equivalent to the foreign price thereof, and transportation charges plus custom duty. The only change from the present bill is that he must go through the holder of the U. S. copyright, who is, in practically every case, the publisher.

Further than this it did not seem to the undersigned the committee had a right to go. It gives both libraries and individuals the right to import English editions. The library can import, duty free, the individual pays transportation charges and customs duty on books, the same as he would on a hat or a pair of shoes.

Mr. Solberg's knowledge of copyright law, and particularly the abstract principles of copyright law, so far exceeds my own, that I should not venture to question any of his statements concerning its application. So far as the American Library Association is concerned, however, it seems to me that our chief duty is to libraries, and that we should support the Vestal measure as drawn.

Very truly yours,

CARL L. CANNON

Chairman, A.L.A. Committee on Book Buying

College Librarians Of Middle West

THE MID-WINTER conference of College Librarians of the Middle West was held Monday evening, December 29th, Miss Jessie J. Smith, Hiram College Library, presiding.

In the first paper of the program, "The Relation of the Librarian to the Alumni Education Movement," Mr. Charles H. Brown, Librarian, Iowa State College summarized various types of experimentation in this field at Lawrence College, University of North Carolina, Oberlin, Rollins College, etc. with brief comments upon each type and urged the librarians of the smaller colleges to identify themselves with a movement which was destined to grow rapidly and with which the smaller college is in a position to make a definite and important contribution.

The second paper of the program, "Recruiting for Librarianship through the College Library," prepared by Miss Mary E. Downey, Library Organizer, The Ohio State Library, was read, in Miss Downey's absence, by Earl N. Manchester, Librarian, Ohio State University Library. Miss Downey pointed out that the colleges are considered important

recruiting grounds for personnel in many other vocations and suggested from her experience with college students ways and means of presenting Librarianship as a profession to this group.

"The Student Centered College Library," a thoughtful paper, presented by Miss Hazel Webster Byrnes, State Teachers' College Library, Mayville, North Dakota, indicated ways and means by which the College Library might become a real factor in developing a student's interest in the things of the spirit.

A joint session with the University and Reference Librarians was held on Tuesday afternoon, December 30.

EARL N. MANCHESTER.

University, Reference And College Librarians

THE JOINT SESSION of the University and Reference Librarians and College Librarians of the Middle West on the afternoon of December 30th opened with an informal address on the "Work of the Advisory Group on College Libraries" by Dr. W. W. Bishop, Librarian, University of Michigan. Dr. Bishop gave a clear cut presentation of the organization, field of work and activities of the Advisory Group, their relation to the Carnegie Foundation, the conditions upon which grants are made, the practice of the Group in considering cases for recommendation to the Foundation, and the results or tendencies as evidenced so far by the grants made.

He was followed by Mr. F. L. D. Goodrich, Librarian of the College of the City of New York, who discussed briefly the numbers and types of colleges investigated by the Advisory Group or by its representatives.

Mr. John T. Windle of the staff of the Newberry Library then read a carefully prepared paper on "The Illustrated Book as Source Material for Research Problems" incidentally proving that the collections of the Newberry Library contain notable and valuable material for such a study.

Dr. William M. Randall of the staff of the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, closed the session with a paper on "Problems of College Libraries," based upon his observations of conditions found in numerous college libraries which he had been asked to survey for the Methodist Episcopal Church and for the Advisory Group on College Libraries.

EARL N. MANCHESTER.

University and Reference Librarians

IN THE EVENING of December 30th, the University and Reference Librarians met in independent session, George B. Utley, Librarian, The Newberry Library, presiding.

"The Recording Functions and the Reference Service; Administrative Reflection," a thought provoking paper read by Mr. J. Christian Bay, Librarian, the John Crerar Library, presented the need for adequate and skilled personnel in the Reference service of a library with the implication that the recording functions of the trained catalogers should not be their only contribution to the service which the Library should render.

Mr. Gilbert H. Doane, Librarian, University of Nebraska, in his paper on "The University Librarian; Administrator or Scholar" sketched in clear cut fashion the ideal university librarian as indicated by the trend of the times. Numerous definitions of the ideal university librarian as quoted by Mr. Doane from replies received to his inquiry sent to "colleagues, friends, and enemies engaged in various forms of University works," formed an instructive and entertaining feature of the paper.

Dr. Nathan van Patten, Director of Stanford University Libraries, described in a paper "designed to answer questions," the "Problems Involved in the Organization and Administration of the Hoover War Library at Stanford University" and discussed briefly future plans for its development and housing.

At the request of several members of the section, Miss Gertrude Wulfekoetter of the University of Cincinnati Library outlined informally the procedure adopted by that Library for the routine work of the periodical department and answered questions raised by representatives of several libraries.

Officers in charge of the program for 1931 are: Earl N. Manchester, Ohio State University, George B. Utley, The Newberry Library, Donald B. Gilchrist, University of Rochester.

EARL N. MANCHESTER.

Responsible For Seal

MISS DEBORAH MORRIS of the School of Architecture and Mr. Rigling of Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, are responsible for the design and execution of a most attractive seal for the Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia and vicinity which is being used on their stationery and all publications.

Book Reviews

Key to Documents Review

"THE PUBLICATIONS of the League of Nations have established a bad reputation among librarians and others interested in the troublesome task of their cataloging, classifying and binding" says Mr. T. P. Sevensma, Librarian of the League of Nations library in Geneva, in the introduction which he contributes to the above work. One commends his recognition of this fact, even though he is not responsible for the bibliographical confusion which he laments. And, upon reflection, one concludes that even if he were there would be no particular occasion to cry *Mea culpa*. For how many corporate bodies are not guilty of the same erratic editorial methods? If confessions of this sort are in order, let His Majesty's Stationery Office account for the curious vagaries of the serial documents of the British government. Or worse offenders, if the narrower scope of operations is considered, are the American universities and colleges. In fact the whole business of serial publications and corporate author entries, be they publications of the League of Nations or the annual report of the local dog catcher's office, must it seems, inevitably make up the most difficult part of ordinary cataloging procedure. Certainly this is so if the rigid American standard of uniformity of entry and exhaustive description are maintained.

The publications of the League of Nations, it is true, long puzzled catalogers, to say nothing of the reference assistants who try to find things for readers. One difficulty was the confusing documentation, each document having two or three series of numbers, and sometimes none at all. To be sure, the signification of these cabalistic notations became clearer after some familiarity with the documents had been gained. But the enormous gaps in the numeration made any arrangement based on the "Official" numbers seem quite inadvisable. The difficulty of document numbers was considerably cleared up by the introduction in 1926 of the "Sales" or "Public" numbers. Then there was, and is, the matter of main entries. Most American libraries, presumably, following the lead of the Library of Congress, simply ignore the

"sections," "organisations," and "commissions" as subdivisions of the corporate author entry, either because they are so unusually clumsy in wording or because of want of confidence in the permanence of these groups under their current designations. Again, the cataloger was dubious as to the value of cataloging the scores of minor documents, consisting often of no more than a single leaf. The Library of Congress occasionally sent along a card for one of these, and it seemed inconsistent to catalog some and not others. Finally, it was found that certain publications issued by the League as separates could be more efficiently handled as serials.

Not all of the difficulties of effectively cataloging and classifying League of Nations documents, and making them readily available to readers, have been listed here. And the World Peace Foundation's *Key* does not remove all of those listed. But it is the first comprehensive bibliography of League documents. Its value to the cataloger, classifier, and reader's assistant is very great. It is in the form of a check list, first noting the serial publications, or at any rate those called serials by the League publishing office, and next, by year, the publications of each section. Starting with 1926, the arrangement is by Sales number, and before 1926, under the proper Section, by Official number. Most libraries will probably find that they hold a few publications not entered in the *Key*, but these will probably be very few. Following the checklist is a section giving the history of each committee, permanent or special, with a record, by document number only, of the publications of each committee. The third part is an index by document number, extremely useful to the reader's assistant and doing away with the necessity of maintaining a special card index of the collection by document numbers. The documents of the International Labor office, of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, and of the Permanent Court of International Justice, are not included.

That the book has pronounced shortcomings cannot be denied. It is certainly not a finished piece of bibliography. Little enough attention is given to accuracy of titles, and one would get no help in trying to determine correct author entries. Paging, size, etc., are omitted, but there is always enough

(Concluded on page 80)

Key to League of Nations Document Placed on Public Sale, 1920-1929. By Marie J. Carroll. Boston, World Peace Foundation, 1930.

Current Library Literature

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A. L. A. Activities Committee report. *A. L. A. Bull.* 24:607-680. 1930.

Candid criticisms of the A. L. A. and its activities from 1,106 members; present officers and members of the Executive Board and Council and members of the same for the past three years; present chairmen of committees and past chairmen for previous three years; directors of library schools and those connected with library training agencies; secretaries of library commissions and heads of extension agencies; and readers' advisers. Introduction and conclusions in *LIB. JOUR.* 55:962-965. 1930.

AMERICAN LIBRARY IN PARIS

Griesser, Marjorie. The American Library in Paris. illus. *Wilson Bull.* 5:250-251. 1930.

Work of the extension service, the International Reference Dept., the children's room, the music department, etc.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Detroit (Mich.) Public Library. *One Thousand Useful Books*. Compiled for the A. L. A. rev. ed. A. L. A. 1930. pap. 114p. 75c.

A complete revision of the list compiled in 1924. The needs of small libraries have been especially kept in mind. "The titles which make up the list were chosen, wherever possible, after careful comparison of many books in the field, the chief criteria being usability, up-to-dateness and informational content, rather than cultural value. An effort has been made to include only books now in print, and, for the most part, books which would not be beyond the buying power of the average small library."—Preface. The arrangement of sections follows that of the D. C. Classification.

BOOK SELECTION

Bascom, E. L. *Book Selection*. A. L. A., 1930. pap. 36p. 35c. (Manual of Lib. Econ., XVI, rev. ed.).

Principles of selection; practice (use of printed aids; book committee; book fund; collecting and sifting titles for purchase; free material; quick vs. deliberate buying; selection of periodicals; selection of children's books); editions; publishers; aids in book selection; bibliography.

CATALOGING

Gjelsness, R. H. The classified catalog vs. the dictionary catalog. *LIB. JOUR.* 56:18-21. 1931.

"Whatever the catalog of the future may be, there is no doubt that classification will play a part in it, as an independent, as catalog subsidiary arrangement in the dictionary catalog or in some such instrument as the shelf list developed as supplement to it. Libraries which now find it possible to develop their shelf lists in a thorough manner, approximating the classed catalog, will be repaid in the future."

Mann, Margaret. The catalog and its value to the small library. *Mich. Lib. Bull.* 21:282-286. 1930.

"Even in time of stress the librarian does not realize that the catalog should be, and must be, the reservoir of information and that chapters once found useful may be called for over and over again and that a card in the catalog, which may take fifteen or twenty minutes to make, may save hours of time, may make a friend for the library and may give a feeling of safety and assurance to the librarian which will make all her work easier." Miss Man does not agree with those who say that L. C. cards are too complicated for the small library, but cautions against blind following of the D. C. numbers without first considering the requirements of the specific library using the cards.

Intended to index with brief annotation, or excerpts when desirable, articles in library periodicals, books on libraries and library economy and other material of interest to the profession. The subject headings follow those in Cannons' *Bibliography of Library Economy*, to which this department makes a continuing supplement. Readers are requested to note and supply omissions and make suggestions as to the development of this department.

clipping materials. A large daily like *The New York Times*, supplemented by a weekly like *The Literary Digest* or *Time*, would furnish the items of current political interest, while *The Saturday Review of Literature* or *Books* would supply biographical blurbs and general gossip about contemporary writing."

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Cooke, Adeline. The collegiate public library patron: pest or guest? *Libraries.* 35:437-443. 1930.

Paper read before the A. L. A. College and Reference Section, Los Angeles, June 25, 1930. Discussion of the paper by C. B. Joeckel of Ann Arbor, Mich., is appended. Monopolization of books and the time of assistants, wear and tear of bound periodicals, and cases of mutilation and theft are some of the problems confronting the public library in a university town.

COUNTY LIBRARIES

Colorado Libs. for November, 1930, prints papers on "The Cost Versus Advantages of a County Library System," by Albert F. Carter of the Colorado Teachers College, and on "Relation of the Public Schools to a County Library," by Frank A. Ogle, superintendent of the Weld County schools. (4:114-117).

Johnsen, J. E., comp. *County Libraries*. Wilson, 1930. cl. 201p. 90c. (Reference Shelf, vt. 6, no. 7).

"Contrary to what might be expected from the fact that so many counties have not yet taken advantage of permissive county laws, there appears to be little or no dependence on county libraries."—Introduction. Saunders, J. F. Catalog cards for League of Nations publications. *LIB. JOUR.* 56:14-16. 1931.

By the Head Cataloger, League of Nations Library. "Since the beginning of 1928, printed catalog cards for all documents placed on sale, that is to say, all documents which bear the series number of the Publications Department, have been prepared by the League Library. Their distribution and sale has been in charge of the Publications Department. The cataloging is duplicated to a certain extent by the Library of Congress, but the latter differs materially from the League Library as regards entries and also in certain details of practice. The question of close cooperation between the two libraries has been discussed, but to the present it has been impossible to effect centralization of the service. Not only are administrative difficulties in both libraries involved, but the difference of principle in the forms of entry seems insurmountable."

CHILDREN. See LIBRARY WORK WITH CHILDREN.

CHILDREN'S READING

Bishop, Merrill. Suggesting books for gifts to children. *LIB. JOUR.* 55:904. 1930.

The San Antonio (Texas) Public Library distributed 5665 lists throughout the city schools two weeks before the Christmas holidays for the children to take home to their parents.

White House Conference on Child Health and Protection. *Children's Reading: a Study of the Voluntary Reading of Boys and Girls in the United States*. 23 mm. p.

Report of the Committee on Reading, Carl H. Milam, chairman, to Section III-G of the conference (Youth Outside of Home and School). Discusses home libraries, magazines and newspapers, book stores for children, subscription books, junior book clubs, and various types of libraries.

CHRISTMAS IN THE LIBRARY. See STAFF RECREATIONS.

CLIPPINGS, NEWSPAPER.

Keeney, P. O. The clipping file. *LIB. JOUR.* 56:13-14. 1931.

"In a large system where there are several persons on the reference staff, the library would find it advantageous to appropriate a definite sum annually to be expended on

ately articulate opposition to the establishment of county libraries . . . By reason of this lack of articulate discussion, the negative in this volume is largely represented by discussions that, although classed as negative because of affording points that might be usable by the opposition in debate, may not be considered as definitely opposed to the principle of county libraries after such objections have been met, and by alternative schemes of realizing rural library service. The volume conforms to the established policy of the series in presenting material both for debater and for general reading and information."—Introduction. Eight of the articles are reprinted from *L.I.B. JOUR.*

Templeton, Charlotte. The county library. *Mich. Lib. Bull.* 21:278-280. 1930.

Reasons why there are only about 220 counties out of a possible 3073 counties in the United States with county serving libraries: the latent antagonism between city and country; the natural conservatism of country and small town folk; the individualism of the country dweller; the apparently excessive cost of library service, in the opinion of the farmer accustomed to thinking in modest sums; and the difficulty of choosing between many types of library organization: auto trucks, library busses, branches, stations, and parcel post service.

DALTON PLAN. See HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION. See UNIVERSAL DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION.

DISCUSSION GROUPS. See RADIO AND LIBRARIES.

EDUCATION, ADULT

Locke, G. H. The library and adult education. *Libraries.* 35:433-437. 1930.

Address given at Convocation of the University of the State of New York, Albany, Oct. 17, 1930. "The heathen, so far as reading and intelligence are concerned, are not in the rural parts, but are within sometimes a stone's throw of our libraries in our towns and cities. Here is where the organization must be done, and I am ready to believe that it bears the same relation to work in the country that home missions bear to foreign—no glamour, no triumphant departure and still more triumphant return, but downright hard work amid less colourful surroundings." The fact that in Russia a million and a half adults each year for three years have learned to read, and many to write, shows what can be done by intensive methods.

FIREMEN. See LIBRARY SERVICE TO FIREMEN.

GENEALOGICAL LITERATURE

Kenney, M. A. Genealogy in a tax-supported library. *L.I.B. JOUR.* 55:1011-1013. 1930.

"Many supporters of our libraries are cynical about genealogy, consider it snobbish, undemocratic, un-American and far too specialized to justify such expenditure of the people's money. Not every community does need a genealogical department, but where there is the need for it why should it not be as well supported as art or music or science or literature? The demand will depend upon the size and location of the city, the character of the population, existence and activity of hereditary patriotic societies, availability of genealogical literature, financial resources of the library, and such minor considerations as any board will be ready to suggest."

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Fitzroy, E. M., comp. *Illustrated Editions of High School Classics.* A. L. A., 1930. pap. 53p. 75c.

Includes list of publishers' series, with comments on general format; list of illustrators of high school classics, with references to articles on the illustrators; and an author list of high school classics in illustrated editions which describes more than 700 volumes.

Hindman, J. E. The Dalton Plan and the high school library. *L.I.B. JOUR.* 55:1005-1008. 1930.

By the librarian of the South Philadelphia High School for Girls. The plan calls for individualized instruction, a socialized environment, and freedom with responsibility. Pupils are divided into different groups according to abilities.

INDIAN LIBRARIES. See LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

KEIGHLEY (ENGLAND) PUBLIC LIBRARY

Keighley Public Library. illus. por. *Ln. and Book World.* 20:94-96. 1930.

Opened in 1904, this library is the first Carnegie Library in England. There is a strong children's department.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS. See CATALOGING.

LEGISLATION. See LIBRARY LEGISLATION.

LIBRARIANSHIP

Blackburn, B. F. The public and the librarian. *Libraries.* 35:443-445. 1930.

"Remembering that, while most people are meeting with one, two or three kinds of personalities, she must meet and conciliate hundreds in a single day; remembering that most of us have educated and prepared ourselves for one particular kind of work, while she has been obliged to perfect herself in a dozen different ways; and remembering, above all, that her work means a constant giving out of nervous energy and cheerful rendition of service, the reading public can do no less than recognize this service by courtesy and cooperation."

Shera, J. H. Handmaidens of the learned world. *L.I.B. JOUR.* 56:21-22. 1931.

Calls for a higher type of librarian and of professional literature than is in evidence in the American library held today.

LIBRARIES

Southern Conference on Education. *Proceedings of the Second Conference, 1929.* Chapel Hill, N. C.: Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1930. pap. 96p. (Extension bull., vol. 10, no. 4).

Papers delivered at the second annual conference held Oct. 19-22, 1929, in connection with the dedication of the new library building of the University, the program of the series dealing with the subject of "libraries." The meetings of the Citizens' Library Movement of North Carolina, the North Carolina Library Association and the Southeastern Library Association were held in connection with the conference. Partial contents: "The Function of the University Library," by Andrew Keogh; "Adult Education and the Library," by Morse A. Cartwright; "Training for Librarianship in the South," by Louis R. Wilson; "The Survey as a Starting Point," by Mary U. Rothrock, etc.

SPAIN

Foster, M. L. Three great Spanish libraries. *ill. L.I.B. JOUR.* 56:9-12. 1931.

They are the Biblioteca Nacional, Madrid; Biblioteca de San Lorenzo, El Escorial; and the Biblioteca Colombiana, Seville.

LIBRARY ARCHITECTURE. See SHEFFIELD (ENGLAND) PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

LIBRARY BUDGET

Walker, M. L. *Municipal Expenditures.* Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1930. (Johns Hopkins Univ. Studies in Hist. and Pol. Sci., extra vols., n. s., no. 13).

Tables of statistical data for chief American cities include the annual library book circulation per capita, derived from lists published in *L.I.B. JOUR.*

LIBRARY LEGISLATION

Ferguson, M. J., comp. *American Library Laws.* Compiled for the League of Library Commissions by Milton J. Ferguson under a financial grant of the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Chicago. A. L. A., 1930. buck. 1103 p. \$7.50.

Part I, British Colonies and Dependencies in the Americas; Part II, Dominion of Canada; Part III, Mexico; Part IV, Newfoundland and Labrador; Part V, The United States of America: (A) Federal government, (B) The states, (C) Territories and dependencies; Part VI, Appendix (1930 laws and some earlier laws).

LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS

[Indian] Library Association. *The Modern Librarian; a Monthly Journal for All-India Library Service.* Published for the benefit of library workers and library readers. Vol. I, no. 1. November, 1930. 33 Nabha Road, Lahore: The Association. Annual subscriptions Rs. 2-4 (or 4s. or \$1). Single copies Annas 5.

Partial contents: "The Children's Library," by Mrs. Anandibai Prabhudesai; "Some Lay Impressions of the American University Library," by Dr. F. Mowbray Velez; "Libraries in Bombay," by Ratanchand Manchanda; and "The Library as a Nation Building Institution," by M. S. Bhattacharya.

LIBRARY SERVICE

Borden, A. K. Creating services. *LIB. JOUR.* 56:23. 1931.

"Make a service available and the demand will take care of itself—that is practically the reverse of the economic law of supply and demand. Yet I have been in a position to observe the workings of this principle in a library several times of late . . . Behind these new services is the realization that one of the major functions of a modern library is interpretation." The writer is in the reference department of the Dartmouth College Library.

Falley, Eleanor. Books as affected by changing methods of instruction. *LIB. JOUR.* 56:24-25. 1931.

By the librarian of the Goucher College Library. The increased use of the library required by the new methods of education is putting an alarming strain on periodicals and semi-rare books. Reprints and photostats are a partial solution of the problem.

LIBRARY SERVICE TO CHILDREN

Power, E. L. *Library Service for Children*. A. L. A., 1930. cl. 320p. illus. facsimis. \$2.75. (Library Curriculum Studies).

This book completes the series of Library Curriculum Studies. Limited to work with children in public libraries. Contents: Values in Library Work with Children; Early Children's Books; Book Selection; Children's Book Collections; Planning and Equipment; Circulation Work; Reference Service; Reading Guidance; Library Service to Adolescents; Extension of Library Service to Children; The Children's Department; The Children's Librarian.

LIBRARY SERVICE TO FIREMEN

Howard, J. A. What city firemen read. *LIB. JOUR.* 56:17-18. 1931.

By the librarian of the Hammond (Ind.) Public Library. Fifty-two of the 82 firemen on the Fire Department make use of the library's extension service. Thirteen per cent of the fiction read were western stories. Magazines were especially popular. In the non-fiction class, 906 books were read.

LIBRARY STATISTICS

Pugsley, W. C. False values. *Lib. Assistant.* 23:235-243. 1930.

"My chief aim has been to bring to your notice the appalling danger of allowing statistics to take precedence in all library affairs, and of allowing our new assistants to be so grounded in the maze of figures which are so false, that they, like many of us, think only in such values."

LIBRARY SURVEYS

Eaton, Allan, and Shelby M. Harrison. *A Bibliography of Social Surveys: Reports of Fact-Finding Studies Made as a Basis for Social Action; Arranged by Subjects and Localities*. Reports to January 1, 1928. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1930. cl. 467p. \$3.50.

Libraries: p. 216-217.

PERIODICALS

Cook, H. A. The librarian looks at magazines. illus. *Wilson Bull.* 5:250-261. 1930.

Examples of the carelessness of magazine publishers in making information about themselves accessible to those who may have occasion to use it.

RADIO AND LIBRARIES

Walton, Mary. The discussion group idea: the experience of Sheffield. *Ln. and Book World.* 20:87-88. 1930.

The Sheffield (England) Public Libraries has used the British Broadcasting Company's series of wireless talks for three winters. "The social and ethical difficulties of modern life, which touch all classes in one way or another, offer the best subjects for the Discussion, as distinct from the Study, Group, and the B.B.C. caters somewhat generously for the student. Throughout the experiment there has been a sense of struggle between the library's invitation to the unlearned and the academic tone of the talks available. It is partly on this account that it cannot be said unreservedly that the Groups have been a success. The non-borrowers have scarcely been touched, and many would-be listeners found that understanding of the talks needed more knowledge than they were prepared to acquire, and did not come again. No

amount of publicity aroused the interest of the large proportion of borrowers the Group was chiefly designed to serve. The issues of books were, on the whole, disappointing. On the other hand, there is no reason to suppose that its aims will not be realized in the future."

READERS' ADVISERS

Farquhar, A. M. Tools for the Readers' Adviser. *LIB. JOUR.* 55:1008-1010. 1930.

By the Readers' Adviser of the Chicago Public Library. Specific suggestions of books, pamphlets and bibliographies.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Bailey, L. C. A \$400 elementary school library. *Wilson Bull.* 5:241-249. 1930.

Reprinted from *Educational Method*. Books for children from the first to the sixth grades inclusive.

SCIENCE LIBRARY, SOUTH KENSINGTON, LONDON. See UNIVERSAL DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION.

SHEFFIELD (ENGLAND) PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Lamb, J. P. Some notes on library planning. I. Sheffield. *Lib. World.* illus. plans. 33:145-160. 1930. To be continued.

"The progressive re-planning of eight Branch Libraries, the erection of two new branches and a children's library, and the preparation of plans for a great new Central Library have accumulated a body of experience which may be of value, or at least of interest, to other librarians. It is proposed, therefore, to describe briefly the main ideas incorporated in the various re-planned libraries and their later development in the new libraries completed or under construction."

SPANISH LIBRARIES. See LIBRARIES, SUBHEAD SPAIN.

STAFF RECREATIONS

Hyers, F. H. An old English Christmas staff breakfast. illus. *LIB. JOUR.* 55:993-994. 1930.

The annual staff breakfast and fête of the Los Angeles (Calif.) Public Library staff.

STATISTICS. See LIBRARY STATISTICS.

UNIVERSAL DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION

Bradford, S. C. Why the Science Library adopted the Universal Decimal Classification. *LIB. JOUR.* 55:1000-1005. 1930.

"The Classification aims at covering the whole field of knowledge, and is far more extensively developed than any other known system covering the same general field. . . . The system has been used extensively for twenty-five years or more and many of the defects inherent in the original Code have been removed. . . . By adopting this system in the Science Library it has been possible to collect in a few years a Subject-Matter Index to periodical literature comprising more than a million and a quarter cards, which will increase in size and scope more and more rapidly as the use of the standard classification spreads."

American Architect
Loses Library Suit

THE COURT OF APPEALS in Brussels have decided against Whitney Warren, American architect, in the famous Louvain Library suit by pronouncing in favor of Louvain University which stood out for removal of Warren's inscription on the library facade. The inscription which read (in translation) "Destroyed by Teutonic Fury, Restored by American Generosity," was objected to by the University as tending to perpetuate the hatred of the World War. Warren refused to withdraw it and the lower courts sustained him. Now the issue is apparently disposed of for the inscription has been removed and a new balustrade erected where it had been.

School Library News

Library Corps Give Volunteer Service

LIBRARIANS who have to cope with the problems of unpaid assistants may be interested in the volunteer service contributed by a group of thirty boys, known as the Library Corps, in the English High School of Boston, Mass. All members of the Corps must be on the Honor Roll with a high personality record. They are chosen by the librarian after recommendation by the home room teacher and at least one other instructor. Each boy gives not less than one period of service each week, and is required to attend the staff meetings held regularly every six weeks.

COMPENSATION ¹

He stands before my desk
A little chap
Black, shaggy hair,
Black eyes, deep pools of
Merriment and mischief.

Yet something in the manly set of shoulders,
Makes me catch my breath
As he demands with genuine dignity,
"A book of plays, the L. A. Times, and
Some book in-ter-est-ing,
You know the kind I like."

Can this be the wild bronco,
That pranced, and neighed and jostled
This quiet room for weeks, a year ago,
When "Curly of the Circle Bar"
The only lariat was
To corral his wild behavior.

It is indeed, but best of all
He's learned to browse,
To wander quietly around,
Inspect and choose and nibble.

Give me this boy another year or two
And I'll not fear to see him face the world
For I have dared demand
From his rebellious soul
A citizen's respect for others.

I've dared to be severe
And force his latent talent
To become powers realized:
To make his quick mind see
The need for social adaption.

Ah! Edward lad, if ever utter weariness
Obscure my job's delight,
Your dancing eyes, your radiant smile
Flash meteor-like before me,
And I know I'd rather be just what I am,
A School Librarian,
Than any other person.

RUTH PEIRCE, Librarian,
Ventura Junior High School.

¹ Reprinted by permission from *Sierra Educational News*.

Books Reserved For Day Periods

ONE OF THE SERVICES greatly appreciated by the pupils of the Baraboo, Wisconsin, High School Library is reserving books for a certain period during the day, or to be taken home at night. In order to have these reserved books available during periods when they have not been "spoken for" and yet make sure that they will be on hand when they are needed, the librarian has adopted the plan of clipping to the fly-leaf a slip of paper bearing the inscription, "This book is promised" and underneath "Wed. night, Dec. 10," or "Wed. Dec. 10, 3rd period." The pupils almost never fail to heed this reminder with the result that simple as the device is, it has just about solved the problem in this small high school of being able to guarantee a certain book to a pupil at a given time.

Definite Course Of Study

AS THE REFERENCE WORK of the students of the high school of Adams, Massachusetts, increased, a necessity arose for lessons in the use of the school library and its resources. This has developed to systematized lessons following a definite course of study in the elementary grades. These lessons are given in the library enabling the students to see the reference materials under discussion and permit them to use the books during the lessons. The teachers cooperate by bringing their classes to the library for class reference work, for study, or to listen to stories dealing with the subject taught; thereby reaching all students. They have also consulted with the librarian in the compilation of the required reading lists. The school library is under the supervision of the public librarian, and a branch of the main library, making its resources both in reference material and in books for circulation practically limitless.

A Correction

IN THE BIOGRAPHICAL sketch of Lawrence J. Burpee, THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, Jan. 1, p. 28, *The Search for the Western Sea* was listed as selling today for \$4.50. The price is \$50.

Children's Librarians' Notebook

THE DARK STAR OF ITZA. By Alida Sims Malkus. *Harcourt Brace.* \$2.50.

The folk lore of the Mayans tells of a beautiful woman beloved by two kings who on the eve of her marriage was carried away by the King of Chichen Itza. Because of this wrong



the City was attacked by the Mayapans and, with the aid of the Aztecs, conquered and her people dispersed. It is from this legend that Miss Malkus has created a romantic story for the older boys and girls. So skilfully has she written that the Mayan life lives again for us, and it is

this that makes her story valuable. It may well awaken or stimulate interest in the marvelous archaeological discoveries that are being made not only in Yucatan, but in other parts of our interesting world.—T. C. B.

TERRIER'S TALE. By Olwen Bowen. *McBride.* \$1.50.

This will be especially interesting to children who have a dog of their own and who have protected him from the wrath of the "grown-ups" because of some apparent misdemeanor. Mr. Woggins, a little black and white terrier, has a very normal dog life. He is full of friendly curiosity which furnishes him with many and varied experiences while spending the summer with his beloved mistress on an island. These experiences do not always end happily for him, but he attributes that to the unexplainable actions of human beings. Out of it all he enjoys himself thoroughly—as will the young readers of the book. The black and white illustrations throughout add much to the interest.—M.W.

SPINACH BOY. By Lois Lenski. *Stokes.* \$1.25.

This is not a moral story trying to make children like spinach for Timothy goes through many adventures trying to get it to eat. Pictures are better than the story which is too artificial and trite. General make-up of the book is attractive, but we feel Miss Lenski is better at illustrating than writing.

—A.M.W.

FISHERMAN 28. By Jack Calvin. *Little, Brown.* \$2.

Treachery, intrigue, and insane hatred abound in this tale of salmon fishing in southern Alaskan seas. It continues the adventures of the Queen of Asia's crew, whose hazardous journey from San Francisco to Alaska we followed in the author's *Square-Rigged* last year. Even more agonizing and fraught with danger than the events of the sea journey, are the plots, feuds, and struggles of the fishermen from the various canning companies during the short fishing season. Just as in the first book, Bert Lindsay, son of the president of the Nushagak-Salmon Company, is instrumental in thwarting many of the enemies plots. The story seems to me exceedingly melodramatic and overdrawn. Instead of depicting the interesting every-day life of a northern fisherman as Kipling does in his *Captains Courageous*, Mr. Calvin emphasises just those qualities which we wish to avoid in the books we select for our young people. Deceit, trickery, determination to win by fair means or foul are the chief motives actuating the men connected with the rival canning companies. Exciting encounter follows exciting encounter so rapidly that the reader scarcely has time to catch his breath before he is hurled from one catastrophe into another. The author seems to have the ability to tell a story vividly and well. It would be interesting to have a sea story from his pen that could be added to the libraries' collection.

—C. N.

JUNGLE BABIES. By Edyth Kaigh-Eustace. *Rand McNally.* \$3.

Delightful little talks for younger children about African wild animals. The style and illustrations by Paul Bransom and Don Nelson make this a book to choose as a gift for our small friends. Parents

as well as children will enjoy hearing these stories read aloud.—T. C. B.



These books are actually reviewed by different children's librarians in the field. If you do not agree with the review of a book, send in your own review and we will print it. The name of the reviewer of any book will be given upon request.

THE PAINTED FIG. By Elizabeth Morrow. Knopf. \$2.

One must read the story to enjoy the illustrations, as the one supplements the other;



both are simple and direct and because of this will be popular with very young children. The Mexican background

as emphasized in the description of the market and the toys does not detract from the general appeal and will tend to broaden the child's interest.—L. H.

PICTURE BOOK OF MOTHER GOOSE. By Berta and Elmer Hader. Coward-McCann. \$3.50.

Gay and colorful as the Hader pictures always are; sixty-four pages in four colors and the rest in black and white. It is very complete as to rhymes and also contains music for verses which have been sung as games or lullabies. More detailed work than they usually do, and there is humor in the smaller pictures and end pieces. The decorated pages will make binding difficult.—A.M.W.

LITTLE PILGRIM TO PENN'S WOOD. By Edna Albert. Longmans, Green. \$2.

A lively account of the life of a little maid who traveled to the New World many years before the Revolution. Little Selinda, ancestress of the author, gives to boy and girl readers, from nine to fourteen years, a glimpse of life in the old country, Germany, then takes them with her down the Rhine, across the ocean, and into the settlement where she made friends with the Indians and really lived. No comment on the book could be more fitting than the closing words of the introduction by M. G. Brumbaugh: "One cannot, in reading this narrative, fail to reach the conclusion that the author is really giving a type-story of a people who have so worthily aided in building this Commonwealth, and indeed, really a picture of her own ancestors. The language, the wealth of incident, the entire setting and treatment prove her complete understanding and love for these voyagers to the New World. The volume merits and should have wide acceptance."—W.W.

AUNT BROWN'S BIRTHDAY. By Elsa Beskow. Trans. by Siri Andrews. Harper. \$2.50.

Uncle Blue and the children plan a birthday party for Aunt Brown, but have many amusing mishaps before the celebration. Eleven full page illustrations plus the black and white sketches show the incidents. It is always with pleasure that we examine a new book by this author for she has an inimitable way of telling a story, her illustrations are charming, and the text is worthy of these. For children a step older than her *Aunt Green*, *Aunt Brown* and *Aunt Lavender* and another splendid foreign picture book to add to our collection.—A.M.W.

MOTHER GOOSE'S NURSERY RHYMES. Edited by L. Edna Walter. Illus. by Charles Folkard. Macmillan. \$3.50.

This is a very full collection of rhymes and jingles that have been popular in nurseries of the past and there are also many extra verses to some of the rhymes that would be difficult to find elsewhere. For this reason it should make a valuable addition to a children's room in a library. Personally, I do not like the illustrations. The small pictures scattered through the text are spiritless and very poorly executed and for this reason I would not recommend it for purchase as a gift for a child's own library.—M.R.

PUPPET PLAYS FOR CHILDREN. By Florence M. Everson. Beckley-Cardy. \$1.

"A bolt of cotton batting, a few yards of cheesecloth, a skein of yarn, and a little paint and you have the makings of a troupe of little



actors that can be as amusing and entertaining as any honest-to-goodness stage folk. I'll tell you how we make the Prince Charming for the Cinderella play and you'll see how easy it is to make a puppet or marionette." Thus speaks the author by way of introducing her little book of five plays of marionettes, puppets, and shadows, in which she tells through splendid illustrations and explanations just how to plan and give the plays. Will be welcomed by teachers of young folks who continually cry for something new.—W. W.

In The Library World

A Library Of The High Seas

THE SAULT DISPATCH OFFICE of the American Merchant Marine Library Association is a link in the chain of twelve Dispatch Offices all operating under and reporting weekly to a Headquarters office at 67 Wall St., New York, N. Y. To the enthusiastic leadership of the President of the Association, Mrs. Henry Howard, is due the growth and success of the movement. The Sault Dispatch Office is strategically situated in the Government Building on the Canal, so near that the ships passing cast a shadow on the Dispatch Agent's desk by day and a gleam of light by night. This office has the unique distinction of giving service twenty-four hours a day as the door is never closed days, nights or Sundays from April 15th to December 15th, the season of navigation for the Great Lakes.

The actual operation of locking through the Canal is accomplished so quickly that a messenger must hurry to the Dispatch Office to make an exchange and perhaps get a book of special request, waiting on the reserve shelf for him, possibly a technical book for study or a particularly favorite book of fiction. The Public Library of the High Seas extends its benefits and pleasures, not only to the officers and crews of the Great Lakes freighters, but to the men in the isolated Coast Guard Stations and Ships and to the men in lonely Lighthouse Stations and Ships. At many of the Lighthouse Stations there are women and children; to them is sent special collections of books and magazines that will make their environment seem less dreary. Books are kept in the War Memorial Hospital where they bring cheer to sailors sick and away from home.

That all this service is appreciated is fully demonstrated by testimony of the messengers and by letters and a very tangible evidence is the contributions from the officers and crews toward the maintenance of the service. During the season of 1929 \$5,800. was do-

nated. The Lake Carriers Association of Cleveland sponsors the service and contributes a generous amount each year toward the maintenance. In 1929 the circulation of books was 60,000 and thousands of magazines are sent out, the *National Geographic* being easily the favorite. The most interesting phase of the work is the circulation of technical books on special request by the men who want to improve their spare time in serious study, in that way helping themselves to a higher rating and better income. The Library is equipped with the best authorities in Navigation, Engineering, Mathematics, Electricity, Radio and kindred subjects. The book stock is recruited by the purchase of new books by Headquarters Office



The Building to the Left Is the Administration Building and the Dispatch Office Is on First Floor

and by book drives held in Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati and Chicago, where energetic Book Committees have the welfare of the seamen at heart. The Annual Report for the year of 1929 records the circulation of books at 60,224, the special requests 1,173 and magazines circulated 5,281.

Library of Congress Notable Year

LARGELY INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS, the accession of the greatest number of books and pamphlets added to the Library in any one year (196,632), and the acquisition of the Vollbehr collection of 3,000 incunabula, including a copy of the Gutenberg Bible, at a cost of \$1,500,000, have combined to make the year at the Library of Congress ending June 30, 1930, an especially notable one. Six and one-half million dollars for the construction of an annex building on a site already authorized and appropriated for was provided for in an act approved June 13. The regular appropriation act provided for the addition of 26 positions; \$23,500 additional for printing and binding, and \$75,000 for the purchase of books, including \$50,000 specifically for law books. Since 1901 the annual appropriation for the law library had been only \$3,000, as

compared with the \$25,000 to \$35,000 spent annually by Columbia, Michigan and Yale, and the \$70,000 which is the annual expenditure of the Harvard Law School. More than 300 legal incunabula came to the library from the Vollbehr collection, bringing the total of incunabula in the law library to 450, probably the greatest number possessed by any law library in the United States. The Library of Congress as a whole has been placed in the front rank among American libraries as an owner of incunabula, since there is only one other collection in the United States, that of the Henry E. Huntington Library at San Marino, Calif., that exceeds it either in distinction or in number of volumes. In 1929 a rough estimate showed that 40 per cent of the titles in the Vollbehr collection were apparently not represented in the United States by a single copy.

Additions to the Division of Manuscripts' collection of reproductions of materials for American history in foreign archives and libraries made under the Rockefeller fund included 115,445 pages from Great Britain, 104,424 from Germany, 80,517 from France, 73,665 from Spain, 48,796 from Austria, 44,702 from Italy, 43,468 from the Netherlands, 21,804 from Sweden, 13,298 from Mexico, 2,542 from Norway, and 2,759 from elsewhere. During the two remaining years of work attention will, with minor exceptions, be concentrated on England, France, and Spain. A new program has been begun by the Library which will provide for the systematic acquisition of facsimiles of complete manuscript texts, codices, etc., in an endeavor to make the Library of Congress a great repository of facsimile reproductions of all kinds.

There have been incorporated either in the master Union Catalogue or its auxiliaries, 9,895,256 cards and locations. The number of regularly contributing libraries has risen to 62, exclusive of the over 90 contributing to the Vergil list.

During the year the number of subscribers to printed cards increased from 4,263 to 5,011. The value of the cards shipped was \$242,580, an increase of more than 10 per cent over the shipments of last year. The whole number of different titles represented in the stock on June 30, 1929, was 1,135,265, and the estimated number of cards in stock is about 79,468,550.

Nine new libraries adopted the L. C. classification during the year, among them Dayton University, Loyola University, and Pittsburgh University. The number of volumes classified and prepared for the shelves during the

fiscal year was 112,678. The portion of the Library now classified under the new classification contains in round numbers 2,706,700 volumes. The total contents of the Library, inclusive of the law library, comprised 4,103,936 books and pamphlets at the close of the fiscal year. From the deposits in the Copyright Office, 33,699 volumes were transferred to the Library of Congress and 9,798 deposited in governmental libraries in the District of Columbia. The Copyright Office received a total of \$327,620 in fees during the fiscal year.

Directory Discount For Business Libraries

THROUGH THE COOPERATION of the members of the Association of North American Directory Publishers the establishment of Business Reference Branches or Departments in Public Libraries throughout the United States and Canada, will be greatly facilitated.

A special meeting of the Directory Association was held on Monday, December 29th, to consider this matter at the request of several leading librarians, based on the growing demand of the public for directories. In order to make directories available for reference in Business Branches or Departments, it was unanimously decided to grant to any Public Library maintaining such a Branch or Department, or about to start one in any city where the Directory is published by a member of the Association of North American Directory Publishers, a discount of 50 per cent on purchases of Directories for this purpose. This offer includes City, County, State and National Directories issued by members of the Association of North American Directory Publishers but does not include the directory of the City where the Library is to be established. The action of the Association of North American Directory Publishers was largely influenced by the most successful demonstration of the Business Reference Branch of the Free Public Library of Newark, N. J., which branch originated in the fertile mind of the late John Cotton Dana and which has attained an enviable prominence throughout the Nation, because of the excellent service being rendered by it, and also because of the recommendation of many prominent librarians that if a discount were given on City Directories many Business Reference Branches would be started throughout the Country.

Libraries desiring to avail themselves of the discount privilege extended by the Directory Publishers Association will be asked to sign an agreement which is reproduced herewith.

A representative of the local Member of the Association of North American Directory Publishers will be glad to call and give any desired information at any time on this new offer or the Association may be addressed at its headquarters, 524 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

PUBLISHERS' LIBRARY AGREEMENT

In consideration of a discount of one-half the price of City Directories purchased from we hereby agree to the following conditions:

1. Not to resell or exchange directories purchased under this agreement.
2. On purchasing a directory of which we have a previous issue on our shelves, to immediately destroy the old volume, unless we will maintain a reference file of back numbers.
3. That at all times during regular library hours these directories will be available for public use in a department devoted to business information.
4. That we will not permit directories, purchased under this agreement, to be taken from our building.
5. That as far as it is within our power, we will place our order on or before December 31st preceding the year of issue.
6. That in order to obtain the above discount we agree to place a minimum first order for seventy-five directories, and that our order for any subsequent calendar years will be for a minimum of fifty Directories.
7. The discount allowed under this agreement does not apply to our local City Directory.

Harvard Offers Two Lists

The Baker Library of the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration has just issued mimeograph copies of two lists, one covering the countries and other political divisions of the Earth's surface; the other enumerating the various classes of industries and occupations. Each list has a numerical notation, so that each item may be designated by a proper number, and each has a complete index. These lists were compiled by Mr. W. P. Cutter, Assistant Librarian, and are primarily intended for use in libraries having a subject classification of their books, to subdivide by locality or industry where necessary. They will probably be found useful also in many other ways. The Local List may be used for the geographical arrangement of maps and photographs, and even for postage stamp collections. The Industries List will perhaps find use in arranging dealer's catalogs, statistical matter, or photographs of industrial plants. Either list may be obtained by addressing: Harvard Business School, Soldiers Field, Boston, Mass. The price for each list has been fixed at one dollar (\$1.00), postpaid, net.

Libraries Move To New Quarters

THE MUNICIPAL REFERENDE BRANCH of the Seattle Public Library has moved into new quarters in the County-City Building. Miss Ella R. McDowell is the librarian in charge.

THE NEW SCHOOL for Social Research has moved into its attractive, modernistic new building on 12th Street, N. Y. City. The Library is an important part of the School—now in more commodious quarters and under the efficient direction of Miss Ruth Wellman, the librarian.

Business Articles In New Magazine

BUSINESS BRIEFS is a new magazine appearing for the first time in October. A monthly containing digests of business articles selected from the current business magazines and trade journals in convenient pocket sized form attractively printed, it is making an instant appeal. Miss Grace T. Aikenhead, an active member of New York Special Libraries Association, is its enthusiastic editor. It accomplishes for the business man what *The Reader's Digest* does for the average reader. *Business Briefs* may be bought on any newsstand or subscriptions mailed to 150 West 58th Street, New York, N. Y.

Civic-Social Group Active

THE CIVIC-SOCIAL GROUP of the New York Special Libraries Association is very active this year under the leadership of Mrs. Mabel Babcock of Russell Sage Foundation Library. The group has increased its membership and as there are so many newly organized libraries, it was decided to visit each of these new libraries. In October an invitation was extended by Miss Helen Wheeler, librarian of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Library, for afternoon tea. Miss Wheeler described carefully for the benefit of the librarians the resources of her library, and the methods of classification, cataloging, and binding. Early in December the group responded to an invitation from the Council of Foreign Relations of which Miss Ruth Savord is librarian. With the charm and beauty of a private library, this useful collection on international affairs has been housed. The visit and study of that library was enhanced by a tea served in the main reception room.

Among Librarians

Public Libraries

MRS. ELLA PARMELE ALVORD, Pratt '98, of Sandusky, Ohio, died on January 31, 1930, the Library School receiving only recently the news of her death.

MRS. MARION MONROE BAKER, Pittsburgh '27, has been appointed reference assistant in the East Liberty Branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

MARY BINFORD, Columbia '29, has resigned from the first assistantship in the Catalog Department of the Indiana State Library to become chief cataloger for the El Paso, Texas, Public Library.

MAXINE BLOCK, St. Louis '24, formerly an assistant in the Reference Department of the St. Louis Public Library, is now in charge of publicity in the Queens Borough Public Library.

JULIA E. BRITTAI, Columbia '27, went to the Library of Congress on October 1 as assistant in the Catalog Division.

PHYLLIS BROWN, Illinois '29, formerly cataloger in the Kansas State Teachers College Library, is now in the Cataloging Department in the Queens Borough Public Library, Jamaica, N. Y.

MARGARET CRANE, Simmons '28, has been appointed assistant children's librarian in the Brooklyn Public Library.

ELIZABETH CRAWFORD, Columbia '28, is a reference assistant in the Detroit Public Library.

ERNESTINE FULLER, Columbia '29, who has been an assistant in the Library of the School of Library Service during the past year, began work as cataloger in the Public Library of Westerly, Rhode Island, on October 1.

CHRISTINA GILLESPIE, Simmons '27, has accepted the position of librarian of the Exeter, New Hampshire, Public Library.

HELEN M. HARRIS, Albany '16, has resigned her instructorship in library science at the University of Tennessee to take a position as director of work with schools in the Lawson McGhee Library, Knoxville, Tenn.

ELEANOR HITT, COLUMBIA '14, formerly librarian of San Diego County Library, is now assistant state librarian of the California State Library.

LOUISE K. HOPE, assistant to the librarian of the Free Public Library of Trenton, N. J., resigned on November 1, 1930, having completed thirty years of service.

N. LOUISE RUCKTESHLER, Pratt '28, has gone to the Montclair, N. J., Public Library, temporarily, as head of the Circulation Department.

ELIZABETH A. SLOAN, Columbia '28, who has been an assistant in the Vassar College Library, has accepted a position in the Reference Department of the Queens Borough Public Library.

HELEN K. STARR, assistant librarian of the James Jerome Hill Reference Library of St. Paul, was appointed librarian in October to succeed Mr. Joseph Gilpin Pyle, deceased.

GENTILISKA WINTERROWD, formerly reference librarian in the Youngstown Public Library, was appointed librarian of the War-der Public Library at Springfield, Ohio, on November 1.

School Libraries

MRS. KATHARINE HAFNER WESTLAKE, St. Louis '28, resigned from the St. Louis Public Library to become librarian of the John Burroughs School, St. Louis, Mo.

J. EILEEN HURLBUT, Pratt '29, has accepted the appointment of librarian of the Setauket, Long Island, High School.

ALICE L. LE FEVRE, Columbia '23, has resigned her position as librarian of the John Hay High School Library, Cleveland.

ELIZABETH LE VALLEY, Columbia '26, who has been with the New York Public Library since graduation from the Library School, has recently been appointed assistant in the Bryant High School Library, Long Island City.

MRS. GERTRUDE SCHWENGER LOYDON, Pittsburgh '23, is now library assistant in the Wadleigh High School Library, Manhattan, New York.

Opportunities

Wanted—Cataloger for large Law School Library in Middle West. Applicants must be college or university graduates with at least one year of training in recognized library school, with a reading knowledge of two foreign languages. Experience in a law library desirable. O12.

Library school graduate desires position in children's department. O13.

Woman with university degree and library school certificate wishes reference, cataloging, or reorganizing in the South. O14.

Position wanted as a hospital librarian. Library school graduate, five years' experience in a public library and four years as a hospital librarian. Will combine both. O15.

University of Illinois Library School graduate desires position in college or university library. Five years teacher-librarian in high school and four years in college library. Prefers work in college or university, but will consider other positions. O10.

College graduate with library training, ten years' experience in public library, California certified county librarian, wishes position in Southern California. O11.

Who Is The Owner?

To the Editor of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL:

We have received from an undetermined source a copy of Humphrey's *Physics of the Air*, 2d edition, 1929, bearing on the inside cover the following rubber-stamped mark: Postgraduate School Library ... File no. 10/728-24; also the name W. M. Lockhart, through which a line has been drawn. There is no indication, however, of the location of this library.

If some librarian will be good enough to give me a clue as to the probable library owner of this volume I shall be glad to return it. W. N. SEAVER, *Librarian*.

Inst. Tech. Library, Cambridge, Mass.

Same Author Same Publisher

To the Editor of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL:

The Secretary's Guide to Correct Modern Usage, by C. O. Sylvester Morrison, Litt. D., Ph. D., N. Y., Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1930., from preface to p. 213 is identical with *Style Book for Writers and Editors*, by the same author and publisher, 1926.

PURD B. WRIGHT,
Librarian, Kansas City Public Library.

The Calendar

Jan. 31—California Library Association, sixth district, will meet at Pomona College.

Feb. 5—California Library Association, fifth district, will meet at Sacramento.

Feb. 14—California Library Association, ninth district, will meet at Colusa.

March 6-7—Massachusetts Library Club, winter meeting at Springfield, Mass.

March 13-14—Pennsylvania Library Club and the New Jersey Library Association, joint annual meeting at Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, N. J.

May 18-21—American Association for Adult Education, annual meeting at New School for Social Research, New York City.

June 10-12—Special Libraries Association, annual meeting at Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

June 22-27—American Library Association, annual meeting at Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Branches Favor Detroit System

To the Editor of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL:

To defend their practices and administrative policy, libraries are sometimes forced to make public replies to questionable rumors. Very reluctantly we join the ranks of others before us.

The following paragraph from an eastern colleague has brought such a rumor to our attention:

"I have been given to understand that the assistants at the Detroit Public Library do not like the Detroit system of charging. Can you answer quite frankly as to why this is so?"

In the interests of "fair play" and to quash further spread of the indictment we announce the results of a secret vote, taken on all branch staffs, to determine the extent of the rumored opposition.

Opposed to the Detroit system..... 7
In favor of it..... 173

RALPH A. ULVELING,
Chief of Branch Department.

Library Will Sell

The University of Kansas Library will sell several volumes of Poole's *Index* at a reasonable price. Lawrence, Kansas.

Travel Booklets of Interest to Libraries

GERMANY

THE HEART OF EUROPE

Those planning to visit Europe, and others, will find this richly illustrated hand book of practical value in forming first ideas of what to see and how in the land of the Rhine and the Black Forest, the Bavarian Alps and countless other tourists' districts. Even the extremely attractive cover tempts one to go to "the heart of Europe," which, of course, is Germany. Contains a wealth of general information about travel by railroad and other means, about things worthwhile seeing, places worthwhile visiting and events worth witnessing; a clear tourist map of Germany; suggestions and advice for travelers, itinerary for a trip through about every district and town; a book list for the traveler in Germany. Revised. 56 pp. Copies free through German Tourist Information Office, 665 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

INFORMATION ABOUT GERMANY

Comprehensive information about all that may be of interest to the tourist and traveler in Germany is readily given, free of charge, at the German Tourist Information Office, 665 Fifth Avenue, New York City. The prospective tourist about to plan his first tour, or the veteran traveler who has been through the country before and now wants to brush up on his recollections or complete them by seeking new regions and new experiences, will find experts at his service there. Where to go and how to get there and at what expense, what to see and when—in short, detailed plans and itineraries are worked out. Special attention is given to vacation courses on universities and other educational possibilities on tours of Germany.

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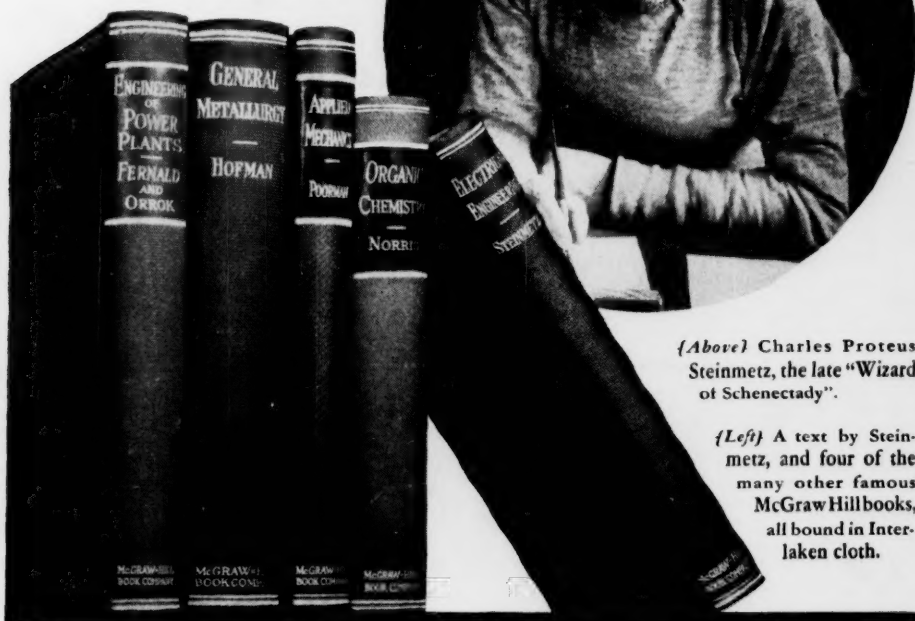
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